

St. Paul's  
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# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, NO. 1011.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED.. 6d.  
{ STAMPED..... 6d.

## FALCON-SQUARE CHAPEL, ALDERS-GATE-STREET, CITY.

The ANNUAL SERMONS on behalf of the SILVER-STREET SUN DAY-SCHOOL SOCIETY, in connection with the above Chapel, will be preached on SUNDAY, March 19th. That in the morning by the Rev. J. SIDNEY HALL, and in the Evening by the Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, of Westminster.

Morning Service quarter before eleven o'clock. Evening half-past six o'clock.

Appropriate Hymns will be sung by the children. A collection will be made after each service in aid of the funds of the Society.

## SURREY MISSION, at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1865.

Details hereafter.

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Titus Salt, Esq.	£525 v 0	J. T. B. ..	£105 0 0
K. B. ....	420 0 0	Copestake, Moore, and Co., Messrs. ....	105 0 0
Rev. T. W. Aveling and Friends .....	252 10 0	J. Rickett, Esq. ....	105 0 0
A Friend, per do. ....	105 0 0	E. Kendall, Esq. ....	105 0 0
Dr. Ross .....	105 0 0	C. Juppe, Esq. ....	105 0 0
H. Harvey, Esq. ....	105 0 0	Goo. Torr, Esq. ....	105 0 0
J. Morley, Esq. ....	105 0 0	Mrs. Rogers .....	105 0 0
S. Morley, Esq. ....	105 0 0	E. G. ....	52 10 0
F. C. Wilkins, Esq. ....	105 0 0	H. R. ....	52 10 0
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Miss Jolly .....	105 0 0	I. Perry, Esq. ....	25 0 0
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N. T. Sergeant, Esq. ....	105 0 0	H. Huth, Esq. ....	26 5 0
Eight Grandchildren of the Founder, por Chas. Reed, Esq. ....	105 0 0	Miss Harris. ....	21 0 0
Other amounts pro- mised previous to the present effort .....	387 0 0	J. T. Sargood, Esq. ....	21 0 0
Making a total of nearly 5,000!		Smaller Sums .....	387 0 0
The Board now look for other helpers to complete this good work—other promises of 100, 50, 25, or 20 guineas—and confidently make their APPEAL to the friends of the fatherless.		Other amounts pro- mised previous to the present effort .....	736 0 0

THOMAS W. AVELING, Hon. Sec.

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A SPECIAL MEETING of GOVERNORS and SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the LONDON COFFEE HOUSE, LUDGATE-HILL, on THURSDAY, March 28th, 1865, for the Election of Twelve Infants.

The Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR at Twelve o'clock, and the Poll will be closed at Two precisely, after which no votes can be received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Secretary. Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

London, March 1, 1865. The Committee pro. tem. have great pleasure in announcing the first Election of the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants—an Institution inaugurated under Royal Patronage, and the support of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. They are much encouraged by the great liberality manifested towards this new claimant to public support; and trust to be enabled to give a still better account of its progress at the first Annual Meeting in May, of which due notice will be given.

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Candidates must send their names and addresses to Mr. Charles J. Murch, the Secretary of the Trust, at University Hall, on or before October 1st, and must furnish satisfactory evidence of age, graduation, and other points, the particulars of which may be obtained from the Clerk of the Trustees, on application by letter.

J. W. GOODIFF, Clerk.

University Hall, Gordon-square,  
February 22nd, 1865.

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- VI. Regent-square Chapel. (March 15.)
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**SURREY MISSION, at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1865.**

Details hereafter.

**THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN, REEDHAM, near CROYDON.**

Under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen.

During twenty-one years this Asylum has offered a home and a sound religious education to more than 500 orphans. Its benefits, however, have been confined, through the debt on the building, which, three years ago was £18,000, and has been diminished to £9,700. The Board are desirous that this year of the Charity's majority should be signalised by the entire extinction of the debt, and are making strenuous efforts for that purpose. A goodly number have pledged themselves to give or get various sums during this year. The following list has been received up to the present date:

Titus Salt, Esq.	£225 0 0	J. T. B.	£105 0 0
E. B.	420 0 0	Coppestone, Moore,	
Rev. T. W. Aveling		and Co., Messrs.	105 0 0
and Friends	262 10 0	J. Rickett, Esq.	105 0 0
A Friend, per do.	105 0 0	E. Kendall, Esq.	105 0 0
Dr. Rose	105 0 0	C. Jupe, Esq.	105 0 0
H. Harvey, Esq.	105 0 0	Geo. Torr, Esq.	105 0 0
J. Morley, Esq.	105 0 0	Mrs. Rogers	105 0 0
S. Morley, Esq.	105 0 0	R. G...	52 10 0
F. C. Wilkins, Esq.	105 0 0	H. R...	52 10 0
W. Webb, Esq.	105 0 0	J. W. Battley, Esq.	52 10 0
J. Mead, Esq.	105 0 0	J. W. Welch, Esq.	52 10 0
R. Jolly, Jun., Esq.	105 0 0	— Sidebottom, Esq.	52 10 0
Miss Jolly	105 0 0	I. Perry, Esq.	25 0 0
A. F. Sergeant, Esq.	105 0 0	W. H. Smith, Esq.	25 0 0
S. T. Sergeant, Esq.	105 0 0	H. Huth, Esq.	25 0 0
Eight Grandchildren		Miss Harris...	21 0 0
of the Founder,		J. T. Sargood, Esq.	21 0 0
por Chas. Reed,		Smaller Sum...	387 0 0
Esq.			
Mrs. Willmot	105 0 0	Other amounts pro-	
N. J. Powell, Esq.	105 0 0	mised previous to	
		the present effort	786 0 0
			Making a total of nearly 5,000!

The Board now look for other helpers to complete this good work—other promises of 100, 50, 25, or 20 guineas—and confidently make their APPEAL to the friends of the fatherless.

THOMAS W. AVELING, Hon. Sec.

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Honorary Secretary, or by Mr. George Stancliff, the Secretary, at the office, 10, Poultry.

March 8, 1865.

**ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS,**  
ALBERT-ROAD, ST. JOHN'S VILLE, UPPER HOLLOWAY, N.

(In connection with the Orphan Working School.)  
For Infants of both Sexes from any part of the Kingdom.  
Under the immediate patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of WALES.

Treasurer—Mr. Frederick Barlow.  
Bankers—London and County Bank, Chief Office, Lombard-street, and at all its Branches.

A SPECIAL MEETING of GOVERNORS and SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the LONDON COFFEE HOUSE, LUDGATE-HILL, on THURSDAY, March 28th, 1865, for the Election of Twelve Infants.

The Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR at Twelve o'clock, and the Poll will be closed at Two precisely, after which no votes can be received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

London, March 1, 1865.

The Committee pro tem. have great pleasure in announcing the first Election of the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants—an Institution inaugurated under Royal Patronage, and the support of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. They are much encouraged by the great liberality manifested towards this new claimant to public support; and trust to be enabled to give a still better account of its progress at the first Annual Meeting in May, of which due notice will be given.

Contributions are very earnestly solicited.

Annual Subscription for One Vote, 10s. 6d.; for Two Votes, 17s. 1s. Life Donation for One Vote, 5l. 5s.; for Two Votes, 10l. 10s., the votes increasing in proportion to the subscription.

Persons subscribing on the day of Election will be entitled to Votes on that occasion.

**APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.**

The next HALF-YEARLY ELECTION will take place at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, FINSBURY-CIRCUS, on TUESDAY MORNING, March 28th.

The Poll will commence at Eleven o'clock, and close at One precisely.

I. VALE MUMMERY, } Hon. Secs.

W. WELLS KILPIN, } Hon. Secs.

**NEW ZEALAND—HOW TO GET THERE.**

The ALBERTLAND ASSOCIATION having arranged for a large party to sail in the magnificent Clipper KING OF ITALY, A. J., 2,700 tons burthen, on the 24th of May next, early application should be made to Samuel Braine, Manager, 8, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.; or by letter to 73, Edmund-street, Birmingham.

**TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.**

MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD MASTER: Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.

This School furnishes, on moderate terms, a sound and liberal Education, both Classical and Commercial, with a religious training in harmony with the principles held by Evangelical Nonconformists.

The NEXT TERM will COMMENCE on the 5th April. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Head Master, who will supply any information that may be required.

TERMS:

For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 40 guineas.

For Pupils entering above 14 years of age, 50 guineas.

Tettenhall is well known as a most healthy and picturesque village, quite out of the mining district, and within three miles of the railway-stations at Wolverhampton.

**HIBERT. TRUST.—TWO SCHOLARSHIPS.**

SHIPS will be AWARDED on this foundation after the next Examination, provided that two Candidates are declared by the Examiners to be duly qualified.—The NEXT EXAMINATION will be held at UNIVERSITY HALL, GORDON-SQUARE, LONDON, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY, the 20th, 21st, and 22nd days of November, 1865.

Candidates must send their names and addresses to Mr. Charles J. Murch, the Secretary of the Trust, at University Hall, on or before October 1st, and must furnish satisfactory evidence of age, graduation, and other points, the particulars of which may be obtained from the Clerk of the Trustees, on application by letter.

J. W. GOODIFF, Clerk.

University Hall, Gordon-square,  
February 22nd, 1865.

**VOLUNTARY, RELIGIOUS, and UNSECTARIAN EDUCATION.**

**BRITISH SCHOOL, HORNCastle.**

In their resolve to abide by the above principles of Education, the Committee of this Institution were necessitated to incur a debt of £350, which has seriously impeded their operations for the last five years. The present being the Jubilee year, the Committee are making an earnest effort to reduce the debt. Having collected £100, they have also received promises of £150 more on condition the whole is raised by the end of May next.

Having no hope of realizing this desirable object unless aided by those who sympathise with their principles, the Committee venture to make an anxious appeal to the public for help, to raise the remaining sum of £140. The success of this appeal is vital to the future prosperity of the School, which numbers nearly 150 children and infants, under the care of a Master from Homerton College.

Any information will be gladly supplied, or contributions received for the Committee by the Rev. T. Lord, Horncastle.

**MATLOCK, DERBYSHIRE.**

MISS DYALL, daughter of the Rev. S. Dyall, RECEIVES YOUNG LADIES to EDUCATE at the home of her Parents. Terms upon application.

**FOR an ADVANCE PAYMENT of FOUR POUNDS per QUARTER (inclusive), a well-behaved and suitably clothed BOY can be EDUCATED in a respectable Boarding School.**

Application to be made to A. B., Miss Southgate's, Forest-hill, Kent.

**PARTNERSHIP.—TO BANKERS and Others.**

A HOUSE of some years' standing—principally engaged in business as SHIPPERS and SHIPOWNERS, and having first-class connections, is open to receive a GENTLEMAN as a PARTNER, with a capital of not less than £25,000, or £30,000. The incoming partner's share would be considerable, as there is at present but one in the house.

Apply, in the first instance, to X. Y. Z., care of W. A. Plunkett, Esq., solicitor, 21, Milk-street, Cheapside, E.C.

**WANTED, by the LIFE INVESTMENT, MORTGAGE and ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED), DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS of AGENTS for several localities in England and Scotland.**

Middle-aged men preferred.

Apply, Head Office, 8, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

EDWIN YELLAND, Manager.

**MUSICAL GOVERNESS.—A YOUNG LADY, fully competent to instruct in the above, also in English, French, and Drawing, desires an ENGAGEMENT in a SCHOOL or PRIVATE FAMILY. Salary, 30s. Good References.**

Address, J. S., Post-office, Whetstone, near Barnet.

**WANTED to PURCHASE, a respectable BOYS' SCHOOL, or a SHARE in ONE.**

Address, A. B., "Nonconformist" Office.

**TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—Emerson Cook and Co. WANT a respectable YOUNG MAN, who has been accustomed to a Family Trade, chiefly for the DRESS and SHAWL DEPARTMENT. Also a respectable YOUTH as an APPRENTICE. A premium required.**

Gainsboro', 12th March, 1865.

**WANTED, an ASSISTANT to the GENERAL DRAPERY and OUTFITTING BUSINESS.**

Apply, stating age, salary, and reference, to Mr. Richard Whibley, Sittingbourne.

**WHEELER and WILSON'S UNRIVALLED PRIZE MEDAL LOCK-STITCH SEWING-MACHINES**

With every recent improvement and addition for STITCHING, BINDING, CORDING, HEMMING, BRAIDING, TUCKING, &c.

This elegant Machine ranks highest in estimation on account of the elasticity, permanence, beauty, and general desirability of the work when done, and also its range of application to every description of household and manufacturing work. It makes a stitch the same on both sides the fabric, firm, durable, and which will not rip or ravel.

Society for Supplying Home Teachers and Books in Moon's Type, to enable the Blind to Read the Scriptures.

President—The Right Honourable the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.

500, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.

March 15th, 1864.

Messrs. Wheeler and Wilson.

Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in informing you of the success which has followed the efforts made for teaching some of our Blind female readers the use of your Sewing Machine.

Their progress in stitching, tucking, and quilting after a few lessons has been quite remarkable eliciting marked approbation from those who have witnessed it. I trust that the use of your Machine will be accepted, not only for the benefit of those more advantageously circumstanced.

Accept my earnest thanks for all the assistance we have received from you in this early stage of our efforts, and for your liberal donation.

I am Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

(Signed) EDWARD MOORE.

Instruction gratis to every purchaser. Illustrated prospectus gratis and post-free.

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**SEWING MACHINES.**

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**CELEBRATED ELASTIC OR DOUBLE LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINES,**

WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS,  
ARE THE BEST AND SIMPLEST EVER OFFERED,  
AND ARE WARRANTED TO DO

BETTER, STRONGER, AND HANDSOMER WORK, WITH LESS TROUBLE, THAN ANY OTHER.

For Family Use, or Dress and Mantle Making, they are positively unrivaled, doing plain and ornamental work with equal facility. They stitch, hem, fell, tuck, gather, quilt, cord, bind, braid, and embroider, are very easily managed, and not liable to derangement. Upwards of 100,000 now in use in all parts of the world.

Every Machine guaranteed. Instruction gratis. Illustrated prospectus and samples of work gratis and post free.

**GROVER and BAKER, SEWING MACHINE COMPANY,**

150, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W.

59, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL

1, PARAGON, BLACKHEATH, S.E.  
THE Misses HADLEY beg to announce that they continue to RECEIVE FIFTEEN YOUNG LADIES for the purpose of EDUCATION.

They are assisted by Masters of long standing, and by a Resident Foreign Governess; but as they carry on the work of General Instruction themselves, each Pupil is under their own immediate and constant superintendence.

While attending to the Moral and Intellectual Culture of those committed to their care, the Misses Hadley endeavour at the same time to secure, by all possible means, the Health and Comfort of their Young Friends, and their efforts in these respects are greatly facilitated by the healthiness of Blackheath and the commodiousness of their Residence.

Reference is kindly permitted to W. Smith, Esq., LL.D., Avenue-road, Regent's-park; Rev. J. Beazley, Blackheath; Rev. R. H. Marten, B.A., Lee, Kent; Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., Kilburn; Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., Bishops Stortford; Rev. W. H. Dyer, Bath.

#### COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.

PRINCIPAL.—MR. VERNEY.

This school is adapted to the requirements of the Sons of Respectable Tradesmen and others. The Premises are First-class, spacious, elevated, and healthy; the rooms are numerous and lofty; there is an excellent well-ventilated schoolroom and class-rooms; a large playground, lawn, and gardens; with every other convenience.

The education is sound, practical, and commercial; with or without French, Piano, Surveying, &c.

Mr. VERNEY has for upwards of Twenty Years been actively engaged in the pleasing and responsible work of training the young, and is favoured with numerous references.

#### TERMS PER QUARTER:

For Pupils over Twelve years of age, Seven Guineas.

For Pupils under Twelve years of age, Six Guineas.

(Terms made inclusive, when preferred.)

Cranford Hall School is on the Bath-road, twelve miles from Hyde-park Corner, and near the Hounslow, Feltham, Northall, and West Drayton Stations, at either of which Mr. Verney's conveyance meets Parents and Pupils.

#### STOKE HALL SCHOOL, IPSWICH.

MR. JOHN D. BUCK, B.A., Principal.

Situation elevated and healthy, near the Railway Station. Education, Commercial and Classical, adapted to the Middle-Class Examinations.

A Preparatory Department for Younger Pupils.

Prospectuses forwarded on application.

The next Quarterly Term commences on the 6th of April.

#### EDUCATIONAL HOME for YOUNG LADIES—MALVERN.

The Principal of a very select establishment, delightfully situated in a most pleasant and healthy part of Worcestershire, desires to receive TWO or THREE YOUNG LADIES on very moderate terms. The pupils receive a very superior education, combined with all the comforts of a home.

For prospectus and full information apply to the Superintendent, Clerical and Scholastic Agency Offices, 78, Borough-road, London, S.E.

#### BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

Rev. R. C. JESSOP, B.A., Head Master.

Terms, &c., on application.

#### BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—MR. GEORGE FOSTER.

This school is specially worthy the notice of those, who, for a moderate payment, are anxious to secure a useful education for their sons. Reference to the Author of "Pleasant Pages." Circulars as above, or of Messrs. Mead and Powell, 73, Cheapside.

An Upholsterer's and a Draper's Son can be received on reciprocal terms.

Mr. Foster has a VACANCY for a well-disposed youth as PUPIL ASSISTANT, of about fourteen years of age, and possessing a fair knowledge of English in general. Premium £20. for three years.

Apply direct to the Principal.

#### SCHOLASTIC and PROFESSIONAL OFFICES.

78, BOROUGH-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.

The nobility, clergy, gentry, heads of families, and principals of schools, are respectfully informed that they can always be provided, free of charge, and at a few hours' notice, with Tutors, Secretaries, Governesses, Companions, and Lady Housekeepers. Undeniable references required before placing names upon the register, so that employers may accept an introduction from these offices as a guarantee of the respectability and good faith of the applicant. Advocations and school disposed of. Pupils introduced.

MR. E. HARRIS, Superintendent.

Agent for the Windsor School Desks, to transform into Backed Seats and Tables. Specimen on view.

**M**EDSTEAD, HANTS.—The kind attention and assistance of the friends of Education and Religious Liberty are pressingly invited under the following peculiar circumstances. Heretofore there has been one school only in the above village; but to it the children of all parties have been made welcome. The newly appointed Rector, however, has forbidden any who do not attend the Church services, or whose parents do not attend, or who do not learn and repeat the Church Catechism, and he has now expelled several children for no other fault. Another school on more liberal principles has thus become a public necessity, and, by the zeal of immediate friends, and the practical sympathy of others, a sufficient amount has been raised to engage the services of a very acceptable and efficient teacher. But one thing is wanting, namely, a room suitable for the purpose; and when it is stated that ground is in possession, adjoining the chapel, on which a schoolroom may be erected for about the sum of £60., and that over £1. is contributed already, it is hoped that each reader of this statement will kindly favour the object with some assistance, or procure for it assistance from the known friends of Education and Religious Liberty.

We, being well acquainted with all the above circumstances of Medstead, do heartily recommend the case to the attention of Christians of all different denominations.

J. MORETON, Alton.

F. M. HOLMES, District Secretary of the March, 1865. Hampshire Union.

Contributions towards a new Schoolroom at Medstead, Hants:—

Rev. Mr. Atkins, Southampton	..	0 10 0
Charles Curling, Esq., London	..	1 0 0
Daniel Pratt, Esq., London	..	1 0 0
J. S. Reynolds, Esq., Hon. Sec. of Home and Colonial Infant School Society	..	1 0 0
Rev. Mr. Ketley and Friends, Farnham	..	1 10 0
G. Nerrall, Esq., Bromley, Kent	..	1 0 0
J. Moreton, Alton	..	1 0 0
Mr. G. Wake, Medstead	..	1 0 0

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#### LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL,

37, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

Beds, from 1s. 6d.; Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee-room overlooking the Square; it is within five minutes' walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for Parties, either on pleasure or business.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

"Very amusing Novelty."—After Professor Pepper's Optical Lecture at 1:15 and 7:30, Exhibition of the "Carte de Visite" of any visitor on the screen, by Chadburn's (of Liverpool) Lantern, also the Crystals from the Human Breath.—The Leuton course of three Lectures on Elementary Astronomy, on Fridays, March 17th, 24th, and 31st, at quarter-past two and half-past seven, by Professor Pepper.

#### STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

48, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS,  
Presented at the ANNUAL MEETING held at the  
SOCIETY'S HOUSE, MARCH 6TH, 1865.

The Directors have much pleasure in presenting the following Report for the year ending the 31st of December last.

Adopting the usual order of previous Reports, the following is a statement of the transactions of the Society during the year 1864.

The number of Proposals received was 1,630—of Policies issued, 1,181:—the sum assured thereby, 456,930L; and yielding in Annual Premiums 15,400. 1s. 9d.

Having regard to the permanent interest of the Society, the Directors have, with reluctance, been compelled to decline 118 Proposals, as being ineligible for Assurance; a considerable number have not been carried out by the proposers; and 59 stood over for completion at the end of the year.

The Directors call the attention of their constituents to the gratifying fact, that the above results are larger in every respect than the business of any preceding year.

The Income of the Society, from all sources (notwithstanding the reductions of Premiums in lieu of Bonus) now amounts to 120,494. 4s. 11d., and the Accumulated Fund to 590,245L. 19s. 0d.

The Claims, both in number and amount, have greatly exceeded those of previous years. It must not, however, be forgotten that the mortality of the country during the past twelvemonths has been unusually high, and consequently almost all Life Offices have suffered in their Claims by death. The sum of 54,509L. 7s. 1d. has been paid to the representatives of 112 persons deceased, insured under 136 Policies. It will, however, be satisfactory to know that the Society provided for 158 deaths, and that, consequently, the above number is within the average expected and provided for.

As an illustration of the advance of the Society, the following table will show its progress during the three septennial periods of its existence:—

During the Seven Years.	£ '000. No. of Poli- cies	Amount Assured.	Annual Premiums.	Total Accu- mulations from all Sources.
From Sept. 1813 to 1850	3,174	1,003,162	33,266 3 3	56,286 12 1
1851 to 1857	4,395	1,461,063	48,705 15 10	238,055 1 7
1858 to 1864	6,631	2,413,532	84,013 5 6	590,245 19 0

The Board cannot close this Report without acknowledging most cordially the support and assistance which it has derived from the Wesleyan Methodist Society, a society with which the STAR has always been identified; and trusts that during the coming year it will continue to receive the assistance so kindly and cordially rendered in its past history.

The Directors retiring in conformity with the Deed of Settlement are Messrs. Holmes, Betts, Thackray, and Macarthur, and, being eligible, will be proposed for re-election.

By Order,

CHARLES HARWOOD, Chairman.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

THE GENERAL PROVIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

CHIEF OFFICES—14, GARRICK-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN, LONDON.

CAPITAL—HALF-A-MILLION.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS HATTERSLEY, Esq., Chairman.

JOHN CAUDWELL, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

H. B. BODIGAN, Esq., J.P.

W. H. GRIST, Esq.

ALFRED BRYANT, Esq.

W. PAUL CLIFT, Esq.

EDWARD SCHNAJDORF, Esq.

MEDICAL ADVISER—ROBERT F. POWER, Esq., M.D.

HOMEOPATHIC REFEREE—JACOB DIXON, Esq., M.D.

SOLICITOR—HENRY EARLE, Esq., 29, BEDFORD-ROW.

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THE LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK, TEMPLE-BAR.

THE ESTATES BANK, 156, STRAND, LONDON; AND 6, D'OLIER-STREET, DUBLIN.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR—HUBERT GEORGE GRIST, Esq.

SUPER-REFEREE—HERBERT THOMPSON, Esq.

SECRETARY FOR IRELAND—EDWARD ALLWORTHY, Esq., BELFAST.

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Special Temperance Section.

Special Homeopathic Section.

Special Working Men's Section.

Advances in connection with Life Assurance.

Immediate and Deferred Annuities.

Educational and General Endowments.

The Board will be glad to entertain applications (addressed to the Managing Director), for Agencies from Persons able to introduce business. Prospectuses sent per post for one stamp.

#### CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

13, ST. JAMES'S-SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PRESIDENT.  
The Archbishop of CANTERBURY.

CHAIRMAN.  
Right Hon. JOHN ROBERT MOWBRAY, M.P.

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXV.—NEW SERIES, No. 1011.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 6d.  
STAMPED..... 8d.

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the matter, we most heartily concur. But we think more good may be done by allowing the writer to speak for himself through our columns. Possibly the few extracts we shall set before our readers will whet their appetites for the entire article, and it is with a view to this result that we deliberately elect to deviate from our ordinary practice in this respect.

The first passage to which we invite attention describes the proper function of a University as contra-distinguished from that of a Church.

The object for which the Church exists is to preserve and teach religious truth; and if that truth takes a dogmatic form, creeds and formulaires of doctrine may be a necessary part of the ecclesiastical system, since it is by them that her teaching is shaped. But the objects for which the University exists are education and learning, the training of the human mind, and the advancement of human knowledge: objects quite distinct from the enforcement of dogmatic truth, distinct even from the formation of a moral and religious character. It may indeed be said that the great aim of all education is to make men better, and that for this religious teaching and even religious dogma are indispensable. True, but it does not therefore follow that the training of the intellect and the moulding of the heart are indissolubly connected, and should be done by the same persons in the same way. As a matter of fact, we see that they are quite distinct. They appeal to different parts of our nature. The capacity for receiving the one is frequently out of all proportion to that for the other; so also is the capacity for teaching them. Strictly speaking, religion cannot be taught at all; and so far as it can be, should be taught first at home, and afterwards by the Church, whose peculiar function it is to do so. Intellectual education not only can, but must be and is, pursued quite apart from theology, in a religious spirit, no doubt, but without reference to doctrine.

The operation of a religious test is thus pithily described.

A test is a device by which we attempt to discover a man's feelings and wishes, just as our own observation enables us to know his physical qualities and his acts. Not being able to read his mind, we throw ourselves upon his honour, and ask him to declare it to us. Now, mark the result in different cases. We take extreme cases, because they show the result more clearly, but the principle is the same in all. An honest and scrupulous man may very possibly take the test proposed to him; but if it be a minute and exact test, the tendency of different minds, thinking independently, to arrive at different conclusions, is such that the chances are great that he will refuse. Certain it is, that the more honest and scrupulous he is, and the keener his interest is in theology, his refusal is the more probable. Take another case. You put your test to a man who has no strong sense of the importance of such matters at all. He signs, perhaps with an uneasy sigh, more probably with a smile. In any case, the less honest he is, and the more indifferent, the more ready is he to sign. See now what has been gained on the transaction. He must be a rigid dogmatist indeed, who, if orthodoxy and honesty cannot be had together, will give the preference to orthodoxy.

Here is a description of Oxford as it is, under the test system.

The presence of tests, and the constant reference to them in every dispute that arises, doctrinal or political, makes dogmatic theology almost the only topic of discussion; the sense of an oppressive yoke makes the tone of discussion invariably unfriendly to orthodoxy. Everybody is proud to show that if his hand signs his mind is free, and revenges himself for the humiliating compliance by hating and abusing the clerical power which enforces it. It is superfluous to say that among the younger members of the University there is no regular study of theology; they merely seize and repeat the notions which take their fancy, or are expounded by the oracle of their coterie, or seem effective for the purpose of controversy. If it was not for the peculiar circumstances of Oxford, theological problems would hardly occur to them at all, or if they did come before them, would be met in a calm spirit. But in Oxford the more clever and active of the young men are excited by the contests of their seniors, and naturally sympathise with the party of attack. Liberalism is fashionable among them, and liberalism is fast becoming synonymous with heterodoxy.

### The effect of tests on University prospects:—

The prospect of this state of quasi-bondage and discomfort has not failed to produce its natural consequence. It is found more and more difficult to persuade persons of distinction to remain at the University, either as lay-tutors or as clergymen. There seems some danger that the work of teaching will soon be left in the hands of men inferior to those who have discharged it during the last forty years. As in the similar case of that decline in the acquirements of the Anglican clergy, about which such loud complaints have been raised by the bishops, the phenomenon is partly

due to the greater prospects which other careers of life open up to ambition, compared with the quiet life and moderate income of a tutor or professor. Nevertheless it is certain that some—and those who know Oxford and Cambridge will be at no loss for examples—are deterred by the idea that if they remain at the Universities, they must lead what is more or less a false life, a life of enforced submission to formulaires of whose truth they are not convinced, with the possibility that a time may come when an increasing divergence from those formulaires may make it their duty eventually to resign their academical posts.

The following historical summary, although long for our columns, is invaluable, and cannot be omitted:—

When the universities arose in Europe, not only learning, but also every profession and all education was in the hands of the clergy. They were, indeed, not so much ministers of religion as a great intellectual caste, charged to promote in every way the spiritual good of mankind. This system, already decaying from the operation of other causes, was rudely broken up by the Reformation, which deprived the priesthood of the sanctity and the power it had hitherto enjoyed, and made it nothing more than one of many learned professions, the most sacred, but by no means entitled to control the rest. Conformably to this altered state of things, the universities, which had never been religious, but always educational institutions (theology was indeed the chief study, but theology then included all knowledge), passed in every Protestant country but one out of the hands of the clerical order, but still remained devoted to their original function, that of being centres where able men might gather to pursue their own studies, and instruct the young in every branch of useful learning. In England alone it was not so. There, in the midst of the violence and disorder of the religious contest, the University as distinct from the colleges, disappeared; the colleges, rich and exclusive corporations, remained, by mere force of usage and habit, clerical. Usurping the power of the deserted University, and reconstituting it from their own members, the priestly colleges impressed upon both Oxford and Cambridge that exclusively clerical character which was never seriously disturbed till quite recent times. The case of England, therefore, so far from being an instance of the rule that education has remained in sacerdotal hands, is the solitary exception to the contrary rule,—an exception partly owing to the greater wealth of her collegiate foundations, partly to the alliance between her Church and arbitrary power. The functions of the mediæval priesthood are now discharged by lawyers, physicians, engineers, by professional statesmen, by public writers and men of letters generally, just as much as by the modern clergy. Nor can the Church now claim, in virtue of anything more than the accident of name, to represent the Church of the middle ages, and enjoy like her the exclusive right of educating the people; while if it be said that she is at any rate the legal heir of the old Church, and as such entitled to the endowments which were her predecessor's, we shall have to ask whether the intentions of the founders of those endowments are or are not to be strictly observed. If they are, do not the endowments now belong to the Roman Catholics, who hold the creed of their founders? If, on the other hand, the nation, represented by its Legislature, has the right of altering their distribution, and was justified in transferring them at the Reformation to a body professing a different creed, and persecuting those who adhered to the old one, does not that right still subsist? May not the Legislature, by another exercise of its power, admit to a share in these foundations, religious bodies differing less from the Church of Elizabeth than the Church of Elizabeth differed from the Church of Becket? We cannot be in doubt which alternative to embrace. The Church of the Reformation has now become divided into many branches. But the Universities were at first, and continued till the time of the last Stuarts, what they are in justice now; the property, not of any one Church, nor of all the Churches taken together, but of the English people. And the true restoration of the ancient system would be to make every citizen of Great Britain now, as every citizen of the whole European commonwealth was then, eligible to all their offices, honours, and emoluments.

On Mr. Gladstone's proposal to facilitate the founding of Halls for non-Anglicans, the writer remarks as follows:—

Unless the masters and tutors of such halls were admitted to the governing body of the Universities, they would have to live in a degraded and client-like condition, obeying laws which they had no share in making, and looked down upon by the regular colleges. The young men educated at them would still be excluded from the great prizes of the place—the college fellowships—and their ambition confined to the barren honour of a place in the Tripos or the class-list. Living apart, and associating only with persons of their own religious persuasion, they would lose the distinguishing benefit and glory of the English University system, the opportunity of mixing freely in a large and varied society, where a man learns to be tolerant and wide-minded—to know men as well as opinions. If, therefore, these non-Anglican halls are to have a fair chance

## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### UNIVERSITY TESTS.

OUR literary columns last week contained a brief but approving reference to an article in the March number of the *North British Review*, on the subject of "Tests in the English Universities." The subject is one which is rapidly coming into greater prominence, and will, no doubt, in no inconsiderable degree, make itself felt at the ensuing General Election. In this expectation, we recur to the article in this part of our journal, hoping to attract towards it a larger share of the attention of our readers. Indeed, we could earnestly wish that it might be reprinted, and, in a pamphlet form, widely circulated in all quarters where it would be likely to awaken interest.

If, as we infer from the style and tone of the writer, from the minute and accurate knowledge of his subject which he displays, and from an incidental expression or two he has employed, he has himself received his education at one or other of the two great Universities, we may congratulate ourselves on the evidence he has placed under our notice, that the question of University Tests, formerly interesting chiefly to Nonconformists, is taking deep hold upon the minds of University men, and bids fair to be discussed in Parliament on broader grounds than those upon which, until quite recently, it has usually been placed. The debates in the House of Commons on Mr. Dodson's Bill, and the incidents which fell within range of our observation in connection with it, inspired into us the hope that the question is passing into a higher and more influential sphere than it could have entered as a mere Dissenters' grievance, and we are thankful to gather from this article strong confirmation of that hope. For the sake of learning in its higher forms, for the sake of education in its widest practical influence, and for the sake of religion in its purest as well as broadest sense, theological and ecclesiastical tests for academical honours, privileges, and endowments, are now being visited with unspared condemnation, not so much by the large class which they invidiously exclude, as by men who have reaped all the benefits which a University training can confer. We cannot too highly estimate the significance of the change. We can hardly anticipate too much from it. And we are in an especial manner bound to welcome the help which spontaneously comes to us from so unexpected a quarter by showing ourselves ready to profit by it.

It is no part of our present purpose to give a résumé of the essay before us. That, indeed, would be a grateful task, because there is not a single principle contended for in it, not a single position laid down, we think we may add, not a single expression employed, to which we can offer any serious objection, while, in the greatest portion of it, whether we regard the manner or

at all, they must be put on an equal footing with the old foundations.

Lastly, here is both encouragement and incitement to active exertion for freeing the University from the Test system :—

The traditional bigotry of these seats of learning is not what it once was, and those whom it still enthrals are not to be found among the ablest men and the most active workers. It is hardly to be expected that a majority of the residents would as yet declare a wish to have Dissenters admitted; but the latter may be sure that if they come they will not be coldly or slightly received. Nor is this all. The real advantages and benefits which Oxford and Cambridge offer are very imperfectly understood by the world at large. Their vast and yearly increasing revenues, once grossly abused for private ends, have within the last twenty years been arranged on a wholly new footing, devoted to educational purposes, and made real prizes of merit, setting aside in nearly every case distinctions of birth or country or previous place of education. In Oxford, between thirty and forty fellowships are given away by competition every year; in Cambridge, a number usually greater. The number of scholarships and exhibitors, whose value ranges from 30L or 40L up to 90L, each college giving away three or four, it may be five or six annually, is still greater. Of these, indeed, the supply exceeds the demand; for the tutors are beginning to complain that they sometimes cannot find candidates sufficiently deserving; and any measure which would enable the University to draw her members from a wider field, would be a benefit to her no less than to the classes excluded.

We cordially thank the writer of this extremely able, timely and liberal article, and we earnestly recommend it to the thoughtful study of our readers, that they may be incited by it to use their political influence when the time comes to bring the injurious, restrictive and demoralising system to an end as soon as possible.

#### ECCLÉSIASTICAL NOTES.

OXFORD has said "Placet," and notwithstanding the humorous jokes of *Punch* concerning the mystic formula to which the University was asked to give its sanction, "*Tum-tum*" has been carried, and that by a larger majority than was anticipated. As there is much misunderstanding concerning the Local Examination Statutes, we think it will be as well to state exactly what has now been done and the position which Nonconformist candidates especially will, in future, occupy.

Four votes on four different subjects were taken at the Congregation lately held. The first vote decided that there should be an examination of all candidates in Faith and Religion, &c., but that where parents or guardians object to such an examination, the Bible itself, if desired, shall be accepted and counted for marks. But no one, it is added, shall be considered to have satisfied the examiners in Faith and Religion unless he has answered sufficient questions in both *Bible and Prayer Book*. This statute was passed by 119 votes to 13. We have yet to see what its practical effect will be, but we presume that unless a candidate chooses to be examined in *Bible and Prayer Book* he will certainly lose so many marks, and possibly be disqualified for his certificate.

The second statute declares that parents or guardians, if they object to the examination in Faith and Religion, must state that they do so on conscientious grounds. This statute was carried by 76 to 63—a rather narrow majority. "Conscientious grounds"—*conscientia causa*—is getting to be a favourite phrase with Churchmen. It has cropped up in Church-rate debates and blue-books, and is now one of the household words of Downing-street. It is a sign of a great and wonderful advance—a proof that at last, after some two or three hundred years' struggle, the Nonconformists have compelled a recognition of the rights of conscience. There was a time when the idea of a Dissenter's having a conscience was one of the most ludicrous ideas which could be placed before a Churchman. You might as well have talked to a Southern slaveholder of a negro having a soul. And now, the rights of conscience is a phrase that would be very variously interpreted, say by Archdeacon Denison and Mr. Goldwin Smith. But there is a general acknowledgment—the condescension of which should, of course, excite our gratitude—that Milton, Bunyan, De Foe, Howe, and other ecclesiastical dissenters, were, and are, endowed with something resembling that noble faculty, possessed in such supreme degree by all Churchmen, and which we call conscience. Archdeacon Denison, we daresay, would compare that faculty, as it exists in Dissenters, to the endowment of the brute creation with instinct, and say that conscience in Dissenters holds the same relation to conscience in Churchmen that instinct in brutes does to reason in men. When men treat their fellow-beings worse than they would a brute they are very apt to think them no better than brutes. However—*conscientia causa*—Oxford acknowledges, in a certain sense, the rights of conscience. Some day we

may hear from her a similar acknowledgment in a far higher sense.

The third statute is the now celebrated *Tum-tum* statute. It makes the religious part of the examination compulsory upon those who make no definite objection to it. This was carried by 78 to 61—a strange vote when we compare it with vote the first.

Vote the fourth passed the measure as a whole, by 87 to 54, and so it was finally settled.

Now, we should not have drawn attention at much length to this statute if we had not known that it is considered to be a triumph of the Church party in the University. We have before us a "whip," signed by Dr. Pusey, Mr. Mansel, and five other well-known Oxford men, in which all true Churchmen are conjured to say *placet* to each one of these votes. Dr. Pusey—for we judge this document to be his drawing—implies in this statement that if passed the votes would decide such questions as these:—That the word "religion" means "the religion of the Church of England as taught in the Bible and Prayer Book"—might he not have added the judgments of the Privy Council?—that the "honest" Dissenter can plead no hardship when accepting the advantages offered by a "Church University," and that Faith and Religion are not now, with Church candidates, optional subjects. Dr. Pusey's whip was successful. Church supremacy is, in his view, maintained, and, inferentially, of course, the Nonconformists and their friends are beaten. This aged crusader, however, sees that there may be, as a consequence, a diminution of candidates, but does not think it will be serious. And if it were, he says, "the University could be doing its duty." Let bigotry triumph, though the University fall! But who will go to the University to be snubbed and rejected by examiners for knowing nothing of the Prayer-book? Who cares, replies Dr. Pusey, whether you go or not? Very well, but we had thought that there were reasons why Oxford University should care. If it does not, perhaps we can go to Cambridge, or even Durham. Meanwhile, we can allow Dr. Pusey to retain for a time his triumph, knowing full well that it will not be of eternal duration.

We have a defence of the Irish Church. Mr. John M. Clabon, of the Church Institution, has disposed of the whole subject in a short speech, at a meeting of that body, which occupies two columns of the *Clerical Journal*. Mr. Clabon's argument is, that if you disendow the Church in Ireland, the disendowment of the Church in England will soon follow; that numbers alone ought not to do away with all other considerations; that no Roman Catholic member of Parliament can support any motion for the disendowment of the Irish Church, without being guilty of perjury; and that nobody objects to reform. And then we have a recapitulation of the fact that there has been a relative increase in the numbers of Churchmen, without a word of the explanation of that fact given in the census, and the usual remark that tithe is paid by the Protestant landlords, made in utter oblivion of the circumstance that, even though they pay it, it does not come out of their pocket. If this be all, and if nothing more can be added to the old argument, Mr. Dillwyn has a better prospect before him than we had thought. By-and-bye, Churchmen will have to be satisfied in referring Parliament and the public to their previous speeches on this subject. Mr. Whiteside, for instance, instead of that exceedingly florid declamation in which he usually indulges when he has a bad case to defend, will have only to rise and refer honourable members to Hansard, for his speech of last year or the year before—ending the reference by the remark that there is nothing more to be said. Controversialists should learn from artists in war, who take care not to fire the same shot a second time, unless it has been re-cast.

We are able to report that the Select Committee on the Qualification for Offices Bill has finished its labours, and that Mr. Hadfield's Bill, as amended by the Committee, will be brought before the House of Commons to-morrow. It is of wider sweep than the original Bill. It recites that it is inexpedient to make and subscribe any of the present declarations, and therefore abolishes the obligation to make them. The Bill applies to all persons—whether of Town Councils or borough; civil servants, and great officers of State; and at the same time passes an indemnity for all who have not made the present prescribed declarations. We believe that the measure will be substantially unopposed—unless Mr. Newdegate should see fit to lift up his voice against it. Mr. Hadfield's perseverance with it is therefore likely to have a full and fitting reward, and one more step will be made towards "religious equality."

The Report and meeting of the London Congrega-

tional Association will be read, we think, with no little interest. The work done by this society, or projected to be done by it, is of that character which so many churches evidently need the greatest stimulus to undertake—viz., to spread the Gospel in their own neighbourhoods, and in the most destitute districts. The moral and spiritual statistics given in the report of the Association are sufficiently painful, but they are nothing as compared with the facts which any one who knows the state of the metropolis would be able to disclose. These facts cannot be placed on paper. What is to be done with them? Are the churches to do nothing? Are Christians to do nothing? Dr. Newman tells us in his late work that nothing is ever really done in any great movement by organisations, but only by men. There is some truth in this, but it is possible for organisations to do what individual men cannot do. The two have different works. It cannot be expected that this Association is to evangelise London, and it is certainly not evangelising it. It is endeavouring to do its best. When the best is looked at it will be seen that it is but little. The speeches of Mr. Morley, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Jones will throw some light on the present apathy. We trust they may rouse others to labour. The question will one day perhaps be asked—What is the use of churches if they do not gain upon the world? The religion that begins and ends in spiritual delectation could be dispensed with without being missed either by God or by mankind.

#### THE LIBERATION SOCIETY IN WALES.

Wednesday evening last, March 8th, a Liberation meeting was held at the Temperance Hall, Aberystwith, when the Rev. J. Rees, the South Wales agent of the society, delivered an address on the history, progress, principles and objects of the association. The hall, with the exception of the orchestra, was crowded in every part.

Mr. REES explained the origin and objects of the Liberation Society in a telling address, from which we extract the following:—

Many good and conscientious Churchmen, while ready to admit that separation would answer for large towns and populous districts, think that separation and the withdrawal of Church property would deprive rural and thinly-populated districts of the preaching of the Gospel. The answer of the Liberation Society to that was, "Look at Wales"; and some indulged in the phrase, "poor Wales." Well, "poor" Wales had provided in round numbers, about three thousand places of worship by means of voluntary contributions alone—(cheers)—and these furnished accommodation to sixty per cent. of the population. As no more than fifty-eight per cent. of a population could attend places of worship at the same hour, the Dissenting churches of Wales had provided ample accommodation for every man, woman, and child in Wales. (Cheers.) What Wales had done might be done by other districts; and Wales effectually refuted the argument that though the voluntary principle might answer very well in large towns, yet it was inadequate to the support of religion in rural districts where the people were few and poor. In these chapels they would find about three hundred thousand communicants, and as many more attendants, where the Gospel was preached every Lord's-day in its purity. (Hear, hear.) Adding to these the Sunday-school children, they would find three-fourths of the whole population of the Principality attending the Dissenting chapels. Such a body of people ought to be conscious of their power, and use it in the best way for their own benefit and the public good. They were on the eve of a general election, and every Nonconforming elector (and the Congregationalists alone had 9,319 electors in Wales) ought to make a wise and honest use of his vote in sending a representative to Parliament. Nonconforming electors, in the exercise of their franchise, should primarily keep before them the equality of civil rights of all subjects of the realm, without respect to differences of religious faith or practice, and demand such pledges from a representative as the local register may justify; that is, Dissenting electors should demand a fair representation of their distinctive principles. (Cheers.) They ought not to lose any time in making themselves acquainted with the votes of their present representatives in the House of Commons, especially on ecclesiastical questions—such as the University Reform Bill, the Qualification for Offices Bill, the Endowed School Bill, the Church-rates Abolition Bill, Oxford Test Abolition Bill of 1864, &c. By looking at the votes of their representatives on these questions, which they could have by addressing a note to the Secretary of the Liberation Society, 2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, London, they could ascertain whether they had been fairly represented or not, and thereby know how to act in the future. In conclusion, he would impress upon those present the necessity of doing their duty fearlessly at the next election, and bowing to no power save that of truth. (Cheers.)

At the close, Mr. E. ROWLAND moved:—

That while the meeting awards a cordial vote of thanks to the deputation for his visit and address, it approves of the principles, objects, and policy of the society, and pledges itself to do all in its power on its behalf; and further, the meeting recommends the friends of religious equality in the town to appoint delegates or delegates to represent them at the Triennial Conference to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 2nd and 3rd May next, at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Mr. ROWLAND said that he, for years past, believed in the society's principles and objects, and after the splendid lecture they had heard he was more convinced than ever of the necessity of united and determined action on the part of Dissenters on behalf of the broad principles of the society.

Mr. J. MATHEWS, in seconding the resolution, said he was glad to see such a large audience present, and was gratified with the attention they had paid to the

stirring address from the deputation. The real stuff was to be found at Aberystwith, only, as Mr. Miall once remarked, they wanted to be brushed up a little. (Cheers.) Mr. Miall had promised to give them a touch one time or the other—(cheers), and if they would carry out the resolution in its entirety, he had not the least doubt that Mr. Miall, the founder *par excellence* of the society, would pay them a visit next summer. Would he be justified in promising him a full house, an enthusiastic audience? (Loud cheers.) Very well, let every one do his duty in the interim. The resolution was unanimously carried.

Tracts were distributed, and a good number of new members enrolled.

#### THE METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE COLLEGE.

On Wednesday night a very numerously-attended meeting of the friends of Mr. Spurgeon's College for the Training of Ministers was held in one of the large rooms beneath the Tabernacle. About 200 of the friends took tea together, and subsequently the public meeting was held, which was attended by about 500 persons. The chair was taken by A. Angus Croll, Esq.

Mr. SPURGEON, who rose amidst much cheering, gave a short but graphic sketch of the rise and progress of the institution. It began with a single student, who was present that evening. For some time additions were made slowly to the numbers, and the expenses were paid out of the profits of the sale of his sermons in America. At length he wrote a letter which gave offence to the pro-slavery party, and a serious decline in the sales took place. The funds of the college got very low, and when they were at the lowest some lady unknown sent a cheque for 200*l.*, and afterwards another cheque for 100*l.* was sent. The number of students was now ninety-three, and means had never yet been wanting for their support. The weekly offerings of the church had begun at 3*l.*, and now they were 50*l.* or 60*l.* per week. Money, in fact, was sent from all parts of the world. The number of students settled over churches during the past year was about thirty. A fund had been established, which now amounted to 5,000*l.*, to assist in the enlargement and rebuilding of chapels, on the principle of advances without interest, repayable by instalments extending over a series of years. The expenditure of the college was now about 3,500*l.* a-year. About sixty-two of the students of the college were now settled as pastors of churches in various parts of the country. The Rev. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

Professor ROGERS, the Principal of the College, next addressed the meeting in a very humorous speech, which was loudly applauded. Speaking of the students, he said he questioned whether they did not succeed much better than some who went forth from more stately halls and with more pretensions intellectual titles. Some of them who were not overfond of Greek and Latin rejoiced in those who were so. They rejoiced in each other's gifts; they rejoiced in Mr. Spurgeon, and he was sure Mr. Spurgeon rejoiced in them.

The Rev. Mr. MEDHURST, of Glasgow, the first student of the college, next spoke. He attributed all his success, under the Divine blessing, to the training he had received in that college. In 1856 he settled at Kingston-on-Thames. He rejoiced to say that he had baptized in all 444 persons, and was living in Christian fellowship and harmony with all the Presbyterian ministers in whose midst he was now residing. He had a church of 360 members, and an average attendance of 700 persons.

The Rev. G. GENGE, of Portsmouth, said he was another minister sent out from this college two years ago. There were only fifty persons in the congregation when he went to Portsmouth, and now the chapel was crowded and they had to admit by tickets, and sometimes hundreds were sent away unable to gain admission. They at first gave 50*l.* a year to their minister, and now they made it four or five times as much, and gave a considerable sum to the poor. To the day of his death he should be proud of having gone to the Metropolitan College.

Mr. SELWAY, who acts as Professor of Natural Sciences in the college, then read an interesting paper, showing the importance of scientific knowledge to Christian ministers.

The Rev. J. A. SPURGEON (brother of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon) said that one of the advantages of this college was the numerous practical opportunities for preaching. In other colleges this was not so much the case, though he thought that preaching should not be permitted to go so far as to interfere with the studies.

After a few words from Mr. CORDEROY and Mr. SPURGEON, the company retired to partake of a substantial supper provided gratuitously by Mr. Thomas R. Phillips, of the Virginia Coffee-house, Cornhill.

Mr. SPURGEON paid a well-merited tribute to the liberality of this gentleman, who commenced by providing supper for the friends when they were few in number, but whose hospitality had increased with the prosperity of the institution. At least 300 persons sat down to supper; and after drinking to the health of the Queen and the president of the College the "Health of Mr. Phillips" was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Spurgeon's father was also present, and, in reply to a toast in his honour, made a brief and appropriate speech. A liberal subscription in aid of the funds was made, and the proceedings closed at an early hour.

NON-ATTENDANCE AT CHURCH.—"H. D." writes to the *Standard*:—"The penalties imposed by the 1 Elizabeth, cap. 2, and the 3 James I, cap. 4, for not resorting to church, you will find are repealed by the 9 and 10 Victoria, cap. 59."

REFUSAL TO BURY.—A late case of refusal to admit the corpse of a child, baptized by a Wesleyan minister, into the village church of Boughton, in the diocese of Norwich, has been settled by an order from the bishop that in future such refusal should not be repeated.—*Watchman*.

PROTESTANTISM IN FRANCE.—M. Guizot has gained his election for the Presbytery of Paris by the small majority of ten votes only—the numbers at the close of the poll being—Guizot, 2,198; Barbezat, 1,288. The dissensions among French Protestants may therefore be expected to continue.

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH AS A BULWARK AGAINST ROMANISM.—In a letter to the *Times* on the progress of Roman Catholicism in England, Dr. Cumming says the Church of England has contributed to Rome of late years nearly two hundred clergymen and members of the Universities, and that the Catholic journals have now ceased to publish the names of converts, as such publicity has raised a formidable obstacle to conversions.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The Rev. Dr. Tidman, feeling that some preparation should be made for his own possible removal or partial incapacity, has recommended that a very distinguished missionary, at present in India, and enjoying the confidence of all the friends of the Missionary Society, should be appointed joint foreign secretary with himself. The Rev. Wm. Fairbrother will henceforth act as joint home secretary, performing the same duties which he has discharged for the last few years.

CHURCH-RATES AT ALTON, HANTS.—On the 9th inst. a vestry-meeting was held in the parish church of this place for the purpose of levying a Church-rate for the repairing of the church and other expenses. The meeting was numerously attended, especially by those who are not favourable to Church-rates. After the presentation of estimates a rate was asked for of fourpence in the pound. W. Holmes, Esq., moved an amendment, but this the vicar, who presided, absolutely refused to propose to the meeting. The rate was carried by a very small majority.

DEATH OF BAILIE GRIEVE, OF EDINBURGH.—The *Caledonian Mercury* records with deep regret the death of this most useful and public-spirited citizen. He entered the Town Council in 1851, and accepted the office of magistrate in 1856, continuing in the active discharge of his duties until the passing of the local act to mix up the ministers' money with the police-rates, which was carried by the Lord Advocate as an abolition of the annuity-tax. Mr. Grieve, being too honest to levy money from his fellow-citizens under false pretences, retired from the council along with other Dissenters, and has since abstained from mingling in local politics. He was much beloved for his genial and manly qualities by his political opponents, equally as by those with whom he was more closely associated.

A BURIAL CASE AT HETHERSETT, WYMONDHAM.—This rural village has lately been raised to some excitement, by the refusal of the rector to bury a child which had not been sprinkled. As no person in the village could be induced to perform any service at the grave, a public meeting was held on the evening succeeding that of the interment of the child, the 7th inst. This meeting was held in the British schoolroom, Mr. B. Baker presiding on the occasion. Mr. Steadman briefly related the circumstances which had led to the meeting; and then related the character, death, and burial of a drunkard and infidel, and of a little child: the one being buried with all the pomp of wealth and the solemnities and hopes of a Christian, and the other being refused decent interment. Mr. Steadman then proposed to answer the question, "Was a clergyman right in thus refusing to bury an unbaptized infant?" And in doing this he showed that as officers of the State they were right, but as exponents and ministers of the Gospel they were wrong. The meeting was well attended, and the remarks of the speaker were listened to with earnest attention, often eliciting a hearty cheer, and at the close elicited a round of applause.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE PRESIDENT OF THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The funeral of the Rev. W. Lockwood Thornton, M.A., president of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, took place on Friday, at the Abney-park Cemetery, Stoke Newington. The burial service of the Wesleyan body, of which the deceased was so distinguished a member, is of a very plain and simple character; and the chief honour which was shown to his mortal remains was by the large number of sorrowing friends who followed them to the grave. At twelve o'clock a special service was held at the Stoke Newington Wesleyan Church, which was densely crowded, nearly all the congregation being attired in mourning. The communion table, pulpit, and front of the organ-loft were draped in black. At the hour named the corpse was borne into the church, the Rev. Dr. Osborne, ex-president, walking before it, and reading the appointed prayers. As the coffin was carried along to a resting-place, all present rose to testify their respect for the departed. The Revs. Dr. Osborne, Dr. Hannah, and T. Jackson, ex-presidents, having taken their places in the pulpit, the special service proceeded, each of the rev. gentlemen named bearing a part. The oration was spoken by the Rev. Dr. Hannah. The concluding prayer having been offered up by the Rev. Thomas Jackson, who is one of the most aged ministers of the Wesleyans, the congregation quitted the chapel. Outside a procession was formed, those who attended walking four

abreast. In front were the students of the Wesleyan body, next ministers of other denominations, followed by those of the particular sect to which the deceased belonged. There were several mourning coaches and private carriages, containing relatives and friends. The road throughout the short distance to the cemetery was lined by spectators, and a large number had assembled round the grave. The concluding portion of the service was exceedingly brief. [It is stated that the duties of the president of the Wesleyan Conference will be discharged by the Rev. Dr. Osborne until the next annual meeting of conference to be held in Birmingham next July.]

THE QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES BILL.—The Qualification for Offices Bill, as amended in committee, provides—"1. It shall not be obligatory for any person who shall hereafter be placed, elected, or chosen in or to the office of mayor, alderman, recorder, bailiff, town clerk, or common councilman, or in or to any office, or magistracy, or place, or trust, or employment relating to the government of any county, city, corporation, borough, or cinque port, within England and Wales or the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, either before or upon or after his admission into any of the aforesaid offices or trusts, or for any person who shall hereafter be admitted into any office or employment, or who shall accept from her Majesty, her heirs and successors, any patent, grant, or commission, either before or upon or after his admission to any office, employment, or place of trust, or his acceptance of any patent, grant, or commission, to make and subscribe any declaration prescribed by any of the said acts." The second section provides that any person who at or before the passing of the act has not made the declarations required by certain acts shall be indemnified from all penalties and forfeitures.

"NO DISSENTER NEED APPLY."—The committee of the Hampshire County Hospital have lately been busy in the election of a house-surgeon. The election ultimately lay between two gentlemen—Mr. A. B. Adams and Mr. E. L. H. Fox. Mr. Adams is two years younger than Mr. Fox, and the time between twenty-one and twenty-three is a very important period in a course of professional study. Mr. Fox has graduated as bachelor of medicine at the University of London—whereas Mr. Adams has only passed, though very creditably, the first examination for that degree. Notwithstanding these facts, the committee elected Mr. Adams by a majority of eight votes to six, and under ordinary circumstances their doing so would be no concern of ours. But the reasons which are alleged to have determined them in their present selection do seem to call for some passing notice. Upon the candidates making their appearance, "the following," we are told, "were the first questions put by the committee:—Are you a member of the Church of England? Have you been confirmed? Are you a communicant? The answers to these questions were severally noted down by the chairman, and the successful candidate was the only gentleman who answered the last question in the affirmative." The importance which the committee attached to this latter consideration is further shown by the fact that Mr. Adams was asked by one of them, during his canvass, "Are you a communicant?" and on his answering in the affirmative, he received the encouraging assurance, "Then we have got over a great difficulty." We are also told, on the authority of a medical contemporary, that one of the rejected candidates was "advised that it might be to his advantage to take the sacrament on the Sunday before the election." It is difficult to say whether the bigotry which limits a medical appointment in a hospital, deriving its support indiscriminately from the charity of a whole county, to the members of a single communion, or the profanity which degrades the most sacred rite of the Christian Church to the level of a preliminary condition for success in a professional competition, is the most offensive element in this disgraceful transaction.—*Daily News*.

#### LONDON CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above association was held in the Congregational Library, Bloomsbury-street, on Friday last. Mr. Samuel Morley occupied the chair. The attendance, owing, probably, to the unfavourable state of the weather, was not very numerous. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence, and containing expressions of the deepest sympathy with the objects of the association, were read from the Rev. Drs. Raleigh and G. Smith, S. Martin, Henry Guthrie, &c.

The Rev. J. H. WILSON, the secretary, then read the third annual report as follows:

It is now four years since the London Congregational Association was formed, and as part of the funds was subscribed for a limited period, which has now expired, the committee, in presenting their report for 1864, would also briefly review the operations of the society since 1861.

Soon after the association was in working order, the committee selected "Long Acre," in the parish of St. Martin's, Westminster, as in urgent need of home evangelisation. They leased Whitfield Chapel, which had then all but fallen into the hands of the Roman Catholics, and appointed a highly qualified minister to the district. The Divine blessing rested on his labours, in two years the chapel was filled, and ever since has been self-supporting.

The next district selected was in Somers-town, where a hall was rented, and an evangelist employed; but it soon appeared that other faithful labourers, who had been obliged to suspend their operations, were enabled to resume them, when the agent of the association was withdrawn.

A spiritually destitute district was then mapped off in

the neighbourhood of Hampstead-road. The evangelist in connection with the mission thence formed, was placed under the care of the Rev. John Guthrie, of Tolmer's-square Chapel. It was first wholly sustained by the association, but Mr. Guthrie's people now contribute a portion of the evangelist's salary.

During the past year 323 meetings were held, and there is good reason to believe that a large amount of moral and spiritual benefit has resulted from the services. The agent reports that besides the religious meetings there is a "Mending Home Society," a "Temperance Society," a "Band of Hope," a "Savings Bank," by which the sum of 49*l.* was saved for the purchase of coal and clothing during the year.

About two years ago the committee suggested that the associated churches in Kentish and Camden-town should co-operate with a view to the formation of a mission in a newly populated neighbourhood. Circumstances occurred to hinder this work, but during the past year the Rev. R. H. Smith, jun., late of Hanley, having removed to London, expressed a desire to undertake something of the kind. This project was placed before him, and he at once resolved to give it a trial. Ground for a site was secured; the chairman of the association and the chapel-building society agreed to give 50*l.* each towards the building of an economical chapel; other friends promised support; while Mr. Smith, to save time and gather a nucleus around him, "opened his own hired house" where the people came gladly to hear the Gospel. In these circumstances, although no application has yet been made to the committee for help, "Gospel Oak Village, St. Pancras," and its promising Mission, is in some degree identified with the association.

The committee now turn to the East of London. The first mission planted there was in Gascoigne-place, Bethnal-green. The spiritual darkness in this district was appalling. Out of 1,000 persons visited, only 100 attended any place of worship. Heathenism more gross than existed in this locality, was nowhere else to be found in heathendom. But it has been to some extent overcome. The evangelist now reports that his congregation on the Sunday averages 150; that the Sunday and ragged-schools are prospering; that a Band of Hope and Temperance Society are in full working order; and that there are above 1,000 depositors in the penny bank. Sixty-five members have been added to the church since its formation in 1861, of whom thirty-three were received during the past year. The church is affiliated *in loco parentis* with the Rev. W. Tyler's church, Mile-end New Town, and Mr. Tyler may well be said to be its "local parent." The evangelist, Mr. Edden, who has had a most self-denying work amongst the fever-struck population of whom the public have heard so much, says in his last report—"The poor people raised 24*l.* last year for the purposes of the association, and have commenced a subscription as the beginning of a fund for the building of a new mission chapel; but their spiritual work is beyond all praise. We have men who have opened cottage prayer-meetings, and take part in the same, and women who go fearlessly with tracts into the very worst districts, not to leave the tracts simply, but to say a word for the Master; all our members are in one way or another pressed into the service, for with us 'work is worship.' The conversion and devotedness of one of those women are worth all the cost of this mission. She was familiarly known as 'Biler-(boiler)-bursting Bet'—because her moral and physical forces were very liable to explode. 'This woman,' says Mr. Edden, 'was the terror of the lowest parts of the neighbourhood, about two-and-a-half years ago. My interviews with her were for some time unsatisfactory, but at length she was induced to attend our meeting in Gascoigne-place, and became deeply convinced of sin. Very deep and very painful was the sorrow that drove her to the Cross where she found the Saviour. From that moment she has been incessant in works of faith and labours of love. Wherever any of our poor people are sick, there is she to be found. She will act the part of nurse, scrub their rooms, wash their children, and do anything and everything to relieve their sufferings and help them in their domestic toils. But her power of leading them to attend the means of grace is most surprising. Never does she come on a Sabbath evening alone. A fortnight since she brought seven men, unwashed, unshaven, ragged as they were, and whether they would or not. They had often promised to attend, but so invariably failed to perform their promises, that she was determined, she said, to be put off no longer. So, enlisting the services of a female friend of a kindred spirit, she went to their houses, in a dark, intricate byway, a little before the hour of meeting, and brought them out one by one, overruling every excuse. Leaving each, as they were gathered, in charge of her coadjutor, she entered other dwellings, bringing out the occupants, and though some tried hard to escape, yet none eluded her search, and then, with her friend in front, while she kept guard in the rear, they marched quietly on before her, and at the meeting sat earnestly listening to the word of salvation."

Three years ago the committee made a grant to a struggling church, assembling in Sydney-street Chapel, also in this parish. The accommodation afforded being of the most uncomfortable character, an effort was made to raise a fund towards the erection of a new chapel, and a site was purchased in Grove-road, near Victoria-park; but, after consultation with the committee and the Chapel-building Society and other friends, it was arranged that a new mission chapel should be built in place of the old one, and the Chapel-building Society having liberally undertaken this work, it is now in progress.

The moral statistics of St. George's-in-the-East are so well-known that we need not here repeat them. Suffice it to say, that the district selected by the association, in mutual co-operation with the Eastern Union, and including Ratcliffe-highway and Bluecoat-fields, contained several squares of houses, chiefly owned by publicans, in which almost every house was a den of infamy. The committee appointed a female missionary to visit amongst these unhappy people, and the Rev. James Bowry, the local superintendent of the mission, reports most favourably of her work. The association also sustains an evangelist in this locality, who combines the best possible adaptation of secular means with a view to promote the highest religious ends, and he has been largely successful. It is painful, however, to have to state, that here, as in other districts where the association has established agencies, a section of the Established Church has planted new missions by their side. Were such missions generally evangelical, the committee would bid them Godspeed; but as a rule

they are not evangelical; and it is a mournful fact in the history of religious enterprise in London, that from seventy to eighty of the new and most expensive churches built in the metropolis during the last fifteen years, are high in their doctrine and Romaniatistic in their worship, while upwards of 500 clergymen of the Church of England, according to the Vicar of Farringdon, in a pamphlet recently published, have gone over to the Church of Rome,\* all which show more clearly than arguments can prove, the need of such agencies as those of this and kindred associations to carry the simple Gospel to every man's door.

In the district of Poplar, an evangelist was appointed last year, and placed under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Smith. He has been very zealous and very useful. To meet in some measure the great and growing wants of the district of Bow, Dr. Smith has secured an admirable site for a new mission chapel there, and the efforts of the evangelist are preparing the way for a permanent interest.

The committee two years ago rented the concert-rooms of the "Edinburgh Castle" in Stepney, in concert with the Eastern Union, and conducted a series of special services with promising results. The committee of the Eastern Union had their attention also called to the importance of securing a good chapel in that locality, and they have now purchased a site. This chapel, as well as the one at Bow, will in all probability be erected during the present year. One third of the cost is to be paid by Mr. Morley, one third by the Chapel-building Society, and the balance by other friends of this enterprise. The evangelist at Bow, who is now statedly engaged in preparing the way for the permanent mission, reports that those only who have visited in the locality can form any idea of the spiritual destitution of the place.

The last engagement of the association in this quarter is a promise to pay one third of the salary of an evangelist to work in the neighbourhood of Wycliffe Chapel, the Eastern District Union, and the church assembling in that chapel, paying the other two thirds. This rule of proportional aid, the committee intend, as far as possible to apply in future arrangements.

At the last annual meeting the importance of establishing territorial missions, and building chapels adapted to the poor districts, was earnestly urged; and the committee have done their utmost in this direction. The chairman having offered to pay one-third of the cost of twelve mission chapels, on condition that the Chapel-building Society should give a third, and friends locally interested a third, that challenge was published; but the committee deeply regret that it has been but partially accepted. The Chapel-building Society cheerfully undertook its full share of the work, and four if not five chapels will be built in consequence; but unless our churches come forward immediately and undertake the other seven, the liberal and generous challenge will be lost to that extent.

The first of these mission chapels has been erected in Pownall-road, Dalston, and was opened by the Rev. Dr. Smith, on Tuesday, the 8th of November. It seats 500 persons on the floor, it will seat 800 when furnished with galleries, and although it is provided with every comfort and accommodation, and has an excellent schoolroom attached, the cost of the whole has only been 1,650*l.* The attendance at the chapel since the opening service, has been most encouraging. Already there is a settled congregation, a Sunday-school with twenty teachers and 160 scholars, public lectures and religious services during the week, and a fair prospect that the mission will be self-supporting in a few years. The work also is reproductive, for these mission chapels will be good investments in the best sense of the term; while the other evangelistic agencies, though less striking in their results, will be found to be not less important in their character, both combining to realise the ideal of one of their early founders, who said, "What cannot be done in bulk, and all at once, let us try in separate portions within the compass of an efficient agency. The very essence of our scheme lies in what we have called the territorial principle, and if the thousands of Christian philanthropists in London were, as little separate bands, to select their respective localities, and do the same thing, a single decade of years might not pass away without our being landed in the blessed results of a better and a happier generation."

To prepare the way for a mission in Hackney, in a neighbourhood near Victoria Park, Mr. Morley kindly paid for the use of St. Thomas's Hall last year, and the committee provided for a series of special as well as regular services. But at the close of the period for which the hall was engaged, the Rev. Mr. Marshall and his church then assembling in the iron chapel at Cambridge Heath, applied for the use of it, while their new chapel is building, and this the committee agreed to, especially as Mr. Marshall had a band of earnest labourers ready to carry forward the same great object, and which they are now doing with many pleasing tokens of the Divine presence.

To promote the formation of district unions, the committee have a series of conferences in progress. Instead of forming twelve unions of churches within the postal districts, as was at first intended, it is proposed to have only three unions associated with the general society—and comprising the cardinal divisions of East, West, North. The Surrey Congregational Union has undertaken the metropolitan districts on the south bank of the Thames, and it now remains for the 150 churches on this side of the river to unite their forces for the evangelisation of London. The committee are well aware that organisation is not life; but they know also that like the frame of the human body it sustains life, and that it has always been a practical feature in the Divine economy of carrying forward the work of redemption in the world. George Whitfield was a great preacher, but he was not an organiser, and therefore has left but few chapels and churches as monuments of his zeal and devotion. John Wesley with less power and eloquence has covered England with an organisation which, whatever may be its defect, has shown the value of systematic working in God's service, and been a blessing to the nation. If the 150 chapels of the Congregational body in Middlesex shall now associate themselves on the basis of this Union—and this is the aim of the committee—who can estimate the amount of good that would be done, seeing that the objects of the associa-

tion are defined in the constitution to be, the formation of fraternal fellowships among the associated churches, the calling forth of their separate and united efforts for the diffusion of Christian truth, and the formation of Christian churches where there is the prospect of their being ultimately self-supporting?

But after all has been done that this association can do, the committee feel constrained to urge on the churches the paramount importance of individual consecration to the great work of evangelising London. To this end it is the intention of the committee to direct its special attention during the present year. It is pleasing to know that a few of our churches have begirded themselves to the work, but there is reason to fear that others are doing but little to reclaim the wastes around them. It was not so in days not long gone by. In the records of the "Christian Instruction Society," for example, for 1833 we find that in that year there were sixty-eight local associations with 1,027 visitors, who visited 32,492 families and had fifty district prayer-meetings. More than 100,000 loan tracts were circulated every month, 568 copies of the Scriptures were sold; 1,605 poor children sent to Sunday and day schools, and 2,335 cases of distress relieved. Three tents were employed for field preaching, and many hundreds of careless persons were induced to attend the means of grace. Have we anything to compare with this now? And if not, why not? As the City Mission rose, this society declined; whereas "this ought ye to have done, and not to have left the other undone." No doubt there are many other agencies now at work for the evangelisation of London, and we are thankful for them; but no other agency can do our work, and every Christian "has a work to do which no other Christian can do for him, and which, if not done by himself, will not be done at all." Let us up, then, and be doing! There are three millions of people in this great metropolis: half a million of whom only attend church or chapel on Sunday, while one million are living in open neglect of the means of grace. Placed side by side three abreast, and in marching order, one line—the line of neglectors—would extend 400 miles, or from London to Edinburgh; while the other line—the line of worshippers—would only reach to York.

Yet here lies our hope. If but 200,000 of the professors of the Christian faith amongst us, would earnestly seek the conversion of one soul a year each for the next three years—and who can doubt that the Divine blessing would enable them to accomplish this? in three years London would be converted. And, if London, then the world, for the spiritual heaving of her big English heart would soon touch every point of humanity, and her spiritual life be diffused to bless mankind.

Mr. HENRY SPICER, the treasurer, read the cash statement, which showed a clear income for the year of 875*l.* 10s. 11d., an expenditure of 812*l.* 8s. 1d., with working expenses amounting to 152*l.* 7s. 8d., and a working balance in hand. He said that he looked upon this as a lamentable statement. It represented an amount of agency quite inadequate to the work of meeting the spiritual wants of the vast population of London. Surely there must be great apathy among the Congregational churches, or they would devote more money and labour towards the objects of the association than they were doing. The society wished to stimulate the churches to do their proper work in the poor districts of the metropolis; not to do that work for them. He was convinced, from the results which had been obtained at Union Chapel, Islington, that the churches had resources and facilities if they were properly tried, and he trusted that the attention of deacons and others would be directed to the subject. They had found at Union Chapel that in proportion as the members of the church engaged in Christian activity outside was the spiritual life and prosperity increased within.

The CHAIRMAN, who was very cordially received on rising, said:—

Our object this evening is to hear what has been attempted by our association, and to talk about practical measures for the future. I confess to often feeling depressed when I think of the spiritual wants of this metropolis. I am thankful indeed for what has been done, not only by us, but by churches and by private individuals to their great honour—work which is not mentioned in our records. I have often regretted that we could not bring these results together, so that we could form a more definite estimate of them. But still, if you make the largest allowance for these efforts, the spiritual wants of the people are still appalling. It is true there are facilities at hand for doing a great deal, but I find upon making careful inquiry, that with respect to a considerable number of our London churches, they are doing nothing beyond attending to what may be considered their ordinary work—the Sabbath-school and other home agencies which, invaluable as they are in themselves, do not touch vast districts of population. I speak after the manner of men when I say that unless some special agencies are brought to bear upon these districts, the work will be left undone. I ask you to listen to the following statistics respecting the East of London, which tell a tale of spiritual destitution which it is fearful to contemplate. In Bethnal-green, with a population of 90,193, there ought to be a regular attendance at public worship of 52,311. There are forty-one churches and chapels, and accommodation for 22,613 persons. The actual attendance was, morning 11,000, afternoon 2,000, evening 9,684; so that the sittings were not half occupied. In Stepney, with a population of 110,775, the attendance should have been 64,000. There are forty-two churches and chapels, with sittings for 28,578. The attendance was, morning 19,756, afternoon 1,954, evening 15,105, less by 35,672 than ought to have been there. In Whitechapel, population 79,759, there should have been in attendance 46,259. There actually were, morning 12,414, afternoon 2,304, evening 9,744. In Poplar, population 47,162, the attendance should have been 27,230. There are twenty churches and chapels, with sittings for 11,989, but the actual attendance was only, morning 7,024, afternoon 1,509, evening 4,693. It really is affecting beyond everything to think of this. I cannot help referring to the indisposition of the London churches to look at this question. For eighteen months there has been this offer of two-thirds of the cost of twelve mission chapels, and only one of these buildings has been begun. It is surprising to me that two or three churches have not clubbed together in different localities

\* "What the results of this teaching (Tractarian) have been to be seen to the clergy themselves, we too painfully know, as the melancholy fact that more than 500 of our number have since the year 1842 openly joined the Romish communion." Vide pamphlet, by Henry Barnes, Vicar of Farringdon, Berks.—James Nisbet and Co., Berners-street.

and said, "At least we will secure one of these chapels." I am sure this state of apathy would not have been seen if the destitution which I describe had been told of one of the South Sea Islands. Exeter Hall could not have contained the worthy people who would have subscribed their money to send to the South Seas or to Japan, but because these facts have reference to Whitechapel, Spitalfields, and Poplar, there seems to be no one ready to take the matter in hand. This, however, is what we have to look at, and I would rather give up the chairmanship of this society if I cannot emphatically speak out my mind. Property and wealth are increasing, and I am sure there must be something wanting, either in the teaching of the pulpit or in the efforts of influential men, or the churches would not be thus willing to remain inactive. There needs to be an appeal closer and more practical than our members are accustomed to listen to, if this work is to be done, and I am certain that in the great day of judgment there will have to be a most solemn account given of the manner in which individuals and churches set themselves to meet the exigency. As to ministers doing it, it is impossible. If they do their duty their hands are full, and I have arrived at the conviction that it is far better for ministers to stick to their work in building up the spiritual life of their own people, and will set their people to the task of bringing in souls to Christ also. I hold the true solution of the difficulty to be this, that members of churches should feel it to be absolutely a sin to be inactive. We want a public sentiment that it is dishonourable to be inactive. Infidelity, and Rationalism, and Roman Catholicism are spreading amongst us. Not that I fear for Romanism as such, notwithstanding all the public show about the funeral of the Cardinal. Our danger lies nearer home—in the Church of England herself—and we must be faithful in our utterances on the subject. There is an undermining process going on both as to public teaching and as to education, which is ten thousand times more dangerous than any open aggression; and all this calls upon us to be more in earnest, and I am persuaded that, if the churches in London had been acting up to their opportunities during the last twenty-five years, we should have had a very different thing to report now. It deserves to be reiterated that this view of things has a solemn bearing on individual responsibility. There are churches, for example, that have moved out into the suburbs that seem to have utterly neglected the districts with which they were formerly connected. It is true, I could name men in the East of London who continue to reside there, although they would be quite justified, on pecuniary grounds, in moving to pleasanter localities, because they feel it their duty to remain at their posts; but this is the exception, and not the rule. It would be well if individual churches were to select districts and work them thoroughly on the principle of the territorial mission, dividing thus the pecuniary responsibility, and a substantial number of their members, male and female, every Sabbath, and occasionally in the week, to visit these people and to hold services. No one can go as I have done and look into the miserable streets and homes at the East-end, without being mournfully impressed with their social wretchedness. There are thousands of people who are living within twenty-four hours of starvation, and these people need sympathy. It is not so much money that they need as the stimulus of knowing that they are cared for, and this would be the effectual means of gaining a higher influence over them. But when churches and individuals get away from London, these people are lost sight of, not, I believe, from any real indifference, but simply because the matter is not pressed upon their attention. If we had a dozen or twenty men whose hearts God had moved, and who would visit the London churches and talk with them about these things, they would find a response, I am convinced, in hundreds of hearts. I have had the exceeding pleasure in more cases than one of observing that there is a sort of substratum of readiness to receive this testimony, and therefore I am satisfied that it would be unjust to condemn the churches till further efforts have been made to bring the subject before them in their church character. I once had the opportunity of hearing from Dr. Guthrie an account of the work done in Edinburgh on this territorial mission system. Every house was planned in a particular district, agents were appointed, and upwards of forty voluntary workers went regularly into the field, each one having his own department of labour. There were schools, evening meetings, and working men's clubs, and the results of all this systematic effort were very cheering. I am convinced that the territorial system of working would be found acceptable to our churches. It would be far better than asking for contributions to some common fund. There is nothing I dread more than centralisation in these things. By throwing upon separate churches both the money obligations and the responsibility of labour, the burden is more easily borne and the work is better done. I was exceedingly interested by a statement made to me a little while ago as to an effort a lady and some female friends were making for the purpose of teaching poor women to read. There was something novel and exceedingly interesting about this plan. This lady called upon some twenty families, taking her chance of finding the wife disengaged and able to take a short lesson. And I was somewhat struck by this fact. At first she related religious tales;—a kind of literature which now, as I think unfortunately, abounds. The public, however, will have religious tales, and so I suppose the next best thing is give them good ones. She soon found that these poor women greatly preferred the Bible to any of these tales, and she was enabled to give very decided testimony to the value of the impressions made upon them by the sacred book. She could hardly tell which was the greater source of joy to them, finding themselves able to read or being brought into an acquaintance with the Bible. This work is suggestive to me that a vast amount of female agency is unemployed in our churches, and that by availing ourselves of it we might bring a mighty leverage to bear upon the masses, for their social and spiritual reclamation. Before I conclude I will call attention to a marvellous book—"Strange Tales," by John Ashworth, of Rochdale—showing what can be accomplished by individuals for Christ. He is not a minister, but plain John Ashworth, doing his daily work in life, but never forgetting the solemn responsibilities resting upon him as a Christian, and always looking out for opportunities of usefulness. My present purpose is to circulate a large number of these books; and I am convinced that every one of us may

take a leaf out of them to our immense advantage. I sincerely trust that we shall all depart from this meeting with our impressions deepened as to the importance of this work. It is not a work which need press too heavily on any one person; but, with the united efforts of the 150 churches of our denomination, I doubt not that much greater results might be accomplished than have ever yet been attained. I intended to have referred to a list of chapels connected with our own body which have disappeared from the East-end of London. Some have been turned into workshops, some into Catholic schools, and unfortunately in many cases new chapels have not been erected. There is ample scope for a dozen more chapels at once, and surely it is not very hard thing for a London congregation to raise 500*l.* towards this object. I would really press it upon the churches as a matter of conscience. It would be a blessed thing if before the end of this year we could see there twelve chapels built and the scene of earnest operations. And I cannot help referring to another point. It is very desirable to get working people often together, even for objects that are not in themselves religious. I am increasingly convinced of the value of this kind of effort. There is nothing like giving them a word of encouragement. I regret that so many noble meeting-houses should be shut up so many days in the week when they might be used for the purpose of getting hold of these people. I have been at Surrey Chapel several times at Mr. Hall's popular lectures, and the other evening I was at Fetter-lane, where a large congregation listened to a really good address, though I could not agree with every word of it. These are forms of effort in which our intelligent laymen may take an active part, and they would thus be the means of promoting the welfare of masses of the people.

The Rev. J. S. PEARSALL, of Eccleston Chapel, in moving the first resolution, observed that the work of the society had hitherto been to a great extent preparatory, but there could be no doubt that it would command increased attention, and be the means of provoking the churches to good works. It was important to adapt the agencies employed to the west as well as the east of London, for both needed evangelisation, though their aspects were so different. He felt deeply the necessity for the employment of female agency, and was thankful to know that there were many women of all classes of society actively engaged in silent but effective means of usefulness.

Mr. JONAS ALEXANDER said he had come from bearing the burdens of secular life to express his deep sympathy with the objects of the association. He felt that the proposition made by the chairman had not met with the response which it deserved. There were but few millionaires, or men of great wealth, who were prepared to devote a large proportion of their substance to the work of God; but he thought that if the chairman were to go amongst the churches, and appeal to them, the work would be done. He would venture to say that if the movement were made Craven Chapel would give at least 200*l.* towards another mission chapel. He hoped the association would seek to work through the churches, and there could be no doubt that it would then be the means of calling forth a large amount of effort.

The Rev. A. M. HENDERSON said that he had great pleasure in being present, more especially as Claremont Chapel had given the first missionary to the new mission chapel at Dalston. Many of the churches who had as yet contributed little or nothing to the association, were doing a great work. Taking his own church, for example, he thought he might say that two-thirds of the members were engaged every week in some form of Christian effort. They never admitted members without making a distinct inquiry as to what department of labour they were willing to be engaged in. He held that the church should be the very heart of all evangelistic movements.

The Rev. THOMAS JONES, of Bedford Chapel, said:—

You have spoken, Sir, of the want of readiness on the part of the churches to respond to the call of this association—of the great sigh that is rising out of this mighty heart of London, and going right to the ears of God, but is not heard by the churches. That is a most sorrowful thing to think of, if it be so, and I fear it is. It is remarkable to see how utterly indifferent the working classes of London are to the Gospel. In our Saviour's time the common people heard him gladly, the Pharisees and rulers went proudly by. The great historian of the rise and fall of the Roman Empire says, not without the dark trembling of a sneer, that the preaching of the Apostles and Christian Fathers was instrumental not in converting the wealthy, but in taking hold of the hearts of working people. In the Principality it is exceedingly difficult to bring together men of money and the Gospel, but miners and copper-workers and other working men fill the chapels. But Anglo-Saxon human nature seems to be the exception. The Englishman brought under the influence of the schoolmaster, raised in the social scale, and standing on the floor of St. Stephen's, is the finest being in the world, but we cannot get hold of the raw material. For example, in the schoolroom adjoining [Bedford Chapel], we have stated services conducted by missionaries and students, but an attendance of thirty-five is considered a large congregation. I don't know how it is, but the working classes seem to be separated from us, and when our friends go to their houses to ask them to come, the first question generally is, Have you coal tickets or soup-tickets at your chapel? We are bound to look at this part in a spirit of earnestness. There is a sentence in one of the resolutions about saving the perishing masses around us. Is it really so that masses are perishing around us? There is a deep under-current of scepticism among thoughtful men in these days; I know it, you know it. There is an atmosphere of scepticism pervading Europe. It is seen in works of fiction, it is heard from some pulpits. Let us be honest with ourselves, brethren; it is a terrible thing to be a believer in the Gospel as our fathers were. But taking for granted the New Testament is true, it becomes a terrible thought that there are a million of people who ought to be worshipping God but do not. The everlasting punishment of the wicked—God knows what that means—but it ought to

make us profoundly earnest, the thought of these people going down into that abyss, the bottom of which is seen only by God Himself. I have looked at falling stars—I cannot give you the impression they produce upon me; a brilliant, beautiful child of light coming from heaven, and going out in darkness as soon as it strikes against the heavier atmosphere of this earth. Think of all these souls, bright, gifted, as some of them are, going down into the eternal darkness. Ought not this to move our hearts? And then there is another light in which to look at this question. Think of what these souls may become by the grace of God! The little brook that threads its silvery way among the mountains, what will it become?—the mighty river bearing on its bosom great ships that plough the ocean. That little curly-headed thing in the cradle, helpless, unconscious, give it thirty years, and what will it become?—the poet, the preacher, the man of science. Take these thousands of persons in London living in sin, and what may they become? The Saviour, who knew the soul, said that they might become equal to the angels in purity, happiness, glory, immortality. Our very conception of what a human being must become under the influence of God's grace ought to move us—preachers, deacons, and members—to do all we can to bring them under that influence. That was a beautiful division of love by one of the old Puritans—love of delight and love of benevolence. The mother has the love of delight—the Christian the love of delight towards God; but it is not with that love that we look at these outlying places of London. We regard them with the love of benevolence, with somewhat of sorrow and pain intermingled with it. The notes of music that describe this love are those of the minor key which came trembling from the lip or the harp string. The sounds in nature are the autumn winds among the withering foliage of the forest branches. The thing in the atmosphere is a noble cloud from the German Ocean melting over the thirsty fields of Oxfordshire or Gloucestershire; or a beautiful sun shining on the world as I have seen it through a shower of rain. Money! It is important, but it is not the greatest thing we want. We want that deep faith—that deep insight into the worth of the human soul—that love that shall stretch forth its arms to embrace the world and make it warm by the fire of its own bosom. We want great love and great faith—faith in the Gospel—faith in God's decrees. Look what strength this gives you. You stand on firm ground. I am here, you say, in the name of the Infinite One, to carry out the divine idea for which the world was built—stand aside, will you! I mean to say that this is hard ground to stand upon. My dear young brethren—though I would not have you think me old—do lay hold of this. Do not think that what you have to do is simply to fill the chapel and get the pews lot. It will give you strength and comfort to feel that you are God's servant; and it will give you peace even if you do not succeed. For success itself is not always what the world calls success. It would be desirable if we could convert London tomorrow—we think so. But God sometimes says wait. The whole history of the world shows us that God takes time. Then let us not be fussy or lose our self-possession. Let us look the great question in the face, and proceed to our work calmly in the name of God. Let us believe in ourselves and in our own opportunity. I find invariably that one of the first conditions of doing anything is for a man to believe in himself. It is a fearful thing how many of us take for granted that they are not to do much. They believe that Samuel could be holy, and Elijah prophesy, and David compose psalms, and Paul preach, and Luther arouse Europe from its slumbers; but they take it for granted that they can do nothing. Believing in ourselves, as we are helped by God, why cannot we preach and labour, and make an impression on the world as well as our forefathers? All great things around us remain the same. God is the same, Christ is the same, human hearts are the same, the longing for immortality is the same; and, believe me, the appeal of the Gospel to the human heart has to-day the same charm of success as it ever had. (Applause.)

The Rev. D. NORTHRUP said that the great want was more spiritual life in the churches; if they had this there would not be so urgent a necessity for busying themselves about modes of action. When this baptism of fire came each convert would begin to labour over against his own house, saying with Saul, "What wilt thou have me to do?"

Mr. JAMES SINCLAIR hoped that the chairman would press his challenge more upon the attention of churches—appealing to the many. If each of the 150 churches of London were to contribute 25*l.* the thing would be done. He would appeal to every member and to every seatholder, and he was convinced that the money would be raised in a few days. He had an impression that congregations were sometimes prevented doing what they might by the timidity of ministers and deacons. It was important to enlist the people themselves in the work.

The Rev. T. JONES said that his experience was different. Ministers and deacons were anxious to do all they could, but the system of collections was pushed to its very extreme.

The CHAIRMAN, in reference to a remark made by Mr. Jones about working men, said that he found there was a great readiness on their part to hear the Gospel when it was earnestly and faithfully preached to them. He had heard ministers express their regret at seeing their influential members absent from their pews; if he were a minister he should pray for the day when twenty or thirty of the most devout of his members should be engaged in preaching and conducting cottage-meetings—always with a view to build up the church, and to bring people to the stated sanctuary.

The proceedings were then brought to a close in the usual manner.

It is stated that Mr. Rumble, who was recently tried in the Court of Queen's Bench for a breach of the Foreign Enlistment Act, and acquitted by the jury, has been put upon half-pay by the Government. He was inspector of machinery afloat.

## Religious Intelligence.

## THE FREE CHURCHES OF LONDON AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

VI.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGENT-SQUARE.

Regent-square Church, though a modern erection, has an eventful and almost tragical history. It was built for Edward Irving, whose fiery eloquence and majestic genius acted as a spell upon London society more than forty years ago. Coming from Glasgow, where he had been assistant minister to Dr. Chalmers, Irving was installed as the pastor of the Caledonian Church, Cross-street, Hatton-garden, in 1822. In a few months he became the most popular pulpit orator in the metropolis. No preacher in modern time has produced so great a sensation in the world of intellect and fashion. Princes of the blood—the Dukes of York and Sussex—were among his earliest occasional hearers. "Brougham took Mackintosh, and Mackintosh, by repeating at a dinner-table a beautiful sentence he had heard from Irving in prayer, drew Canning. The Parliamentary leaders of both sides, and even the Tory Premier, Lord Liverpool (much to Lord Eldon's horror)—the judges and barristers of every degree—fashionable physicians and medical students—duchesses, noted beauties, city madams—clerics and Dissenters—with men and women who rather followed the fashion than made particular pretensions to either intellect or religion—besieged the doors, and were jammed together in the aisles. Carriage panels were cracked in Cross-street as in Drury-lane, and the preacher was every whit as much the rage as ever Kemble or Kean."\* The Caledonian Church soon became too strait for the crowds that flocked to hear the celebrated preacher, and it was resolved to build a new temple of worship worthy of Irving's fame, and a fitting centre of Scotch Presbyterianism in London. Hence soon arose, by aid of Mr. Tite's architectural skill, the stately towers of the "Scotch National Church," Regent-square, Gray's-inn-road, at a cost from first to last of 21,000*l.* It was opened on the 11th of May, 1827, with a sermon from Dr. Chalmers. But Irving's great popularity was already on the wane. Though large audiences were drawn to his Sunday services and week-night lectures, the new church was never overcrowded. The fashionable world was tired of its idol, and craved new excitements. Even at this early period the sagacious instinct of Dr. Chalmers foresaw what was coming. "I really fear," he writes of Irving about the time of the opening of the new church, "lest his prophecies, and the excessive length and weariness of his services, may unship him altogether." The many controversies that soon arose, the prophetic fanaticism that seized upon the great preacher, and the scenes of wild excitement of which Regent-square Church was the theatre, it would be foreign to our purpose to dilate upon. They have indeed been recently recalled to remembrance by Mrs. Oliphant, his accomplished biographer. Suffice it to say that Edward Irving was deposed for "heresy" from the ministry of the Church of Scotland, and in May, 1832, was shut out of the church which had been built for him. His sun went down under eclipse. "One may say," says Thomas Carlyle, in his obituary notice of the great preacher, "it was his own nobleness that forwarded his ruin—the excess of his sociability and sympathy, of his value for the suffrages and sympathies of men." A scanty congregation and a heavy debt was the legacy left to the "Session" which managed the affairs of Regent-square Church. When its presiding spirit had been cast out, there was imminent danger of a collapse of this once promising Christian enterprise. It was nearly three years before Regent-square had again a settled minister. The Rev. Peter McMorland somewhat resuscitated the congregation, but after the lapse of four years accepted a call to Glasgow. He was succeeded by the Rev. James Hamilton, of Roxburgh Church, Edinburgh, then a young man.

The Rev. Dr. Hamilton—we use his present designation—was inducted as the pastor of Regent-square Church in 1841, two years before the great Disruption. His congregation were not slow in showing their sympathies with the newly-organised Free Church; and, in common with most of the Scotch Churches in England, threw off their allegiance to the Scotch Establishment, and ere long constituted themselves "The Presbyterian Church in England." This Church,—we quote from the Rev. Dr. M'Crie's Manual—"occupies an independent position of her own," and claims to be "the only genuine representative of the old English Presbyterians." "We

stand," says the same authority, "in the relation of a sister church to the 'Free Church of Scotland,' and to 'the Presbyterian Church in Ireland'—churches which like our own are free from patronage and State control [though not, in the last-named, from State pay], and are testifying for the sole Headship of Christ, and the spiritual independence of His Church." Soon after the Disruption, arose the question as to the disposal of Regent-square Church as a property. The trust-deed provided that it should always be connected with the Church of Scotland, and that the minister must be ordained by the Presbytery of Edinburgh, if not already a member of the Church of Scotland. But the building, fortunately perhaps, was still burdened with a heavy debt of 5,500*l.*, and unless a second Irving arose, was of small value—a costly encumbrance rather than an available property—to the "residuary" members of the Scotch Kirk, of which Dr. Cumming became the most distinguished, if not the sole representative in London. So Dr. Hamilton was allowed to remain on sufferance, the church, meanwhile—not being the property of those who worshipped in it—falling out of repair till in 1859 it was put up for sale by the trustees and bought by the present congregation for 6,000*l.* The "National Scotch Church" was now their own, and henceforth took the name prefixed to this article. Repairs and alterations were forthwith commenced. It was a heavy responsibility for a single congregation. Only last year was the church-building debt entirely extinguished, amounting, in the aggregate, to 14,000*l.* While this great liability was being gradually met, it is greatly to the credit of the congregation that their ordinary contributions for religious purposes were well sustained.

Like all other Presbyterian Churches, Regent-square Church is governed by a "Session" composed of the Minister as moderator, and elders and deacons chosen by the congregation. "To the Session it belongs to admit members to the communion of the church, and to administer church discipline. The elders assist the ministers in the administration of the Lord's Supper and in the visitation of the flock; while the deacons attend to the poor, report cases of sickness and distress in their respective districts, and are generally associated with the Session in deliberation, though not entitled to vote in cases of discipline." In Dr. Hamilton's church there are at the present time seventeen elders and seventeen deacons—the respective numbers vary year by year—and about 650 "communicants." The Lord's Supper is, in accordance with the Scotch practice, celebrated only four times in the year.

In liberal and unfailing support of their religious institutions, the Regent-square congregation will vie with any other Nonconformist church in London. During the twenty-four years of Dr. Hamilton's pastorate, they have raised, in addition to the heavy amount for the purchase and restoration of their church, an aggregate of nearly 35,000*l.* for religious and philanthropic purposes. Nearly one-half of the yearly contributions have of late years been the product of monthly subscriptions, steadily collected on a well-arranged system from house to house, by what is called the "Congregational Association." This plan has answered admirably. Its advantages as compared with church-door collections solely have been as three to two. "It is not too much to say," observed Dr. Hamilton, in an address to his congregation in 1859, "that without the machinery of the Association, half the revenue of these fourteen years would have been lost to our own church, if not to the cause of Christian philanthropy altogether." The plan, excellent as it is, necessarily involves a large sacrifice of time and labour on the part of the volunteer collectors. Last year the congregation contributed 3,637*l.* for all purposes—a very noble sum. About 500*l.* of this amount was given—on what may be called the "rate-in-aid" principle—to "the Synod's schemes"—schools in thinly-populated districts; the Presbyterian College in London; the Home Mission Fund, for raising the stipend of each minister in England to at least 150*l.*, and helping to support pastors for a time in destitute and rural districts; and Foreign Missions. The City Mission, the St. Pancras Dispensary, and other charities, also receive contributions. A considerable sum is likewise yearly disbursed among the poor of the neighbourhood by the Ladies' Visiting Society.

The congregation of Regent-square maintains two Sabbath-schools—one at the church itself, and the second and larger in Somers Town. Together they provide instruction on the Sabbath for about 700 children by means of seventy teachers. Of the day-school we shall speak further on. The Dorcas and Young Men's Societies are similar to such agencies in other churches.

Long before the Census Returns of 1851 revealed the appalling spiritual destitution of the metropolis, the Regent-square Church was carrying on a mission of evangelisation in a neighbouring destitute locality. Somers Town is situated between the Great Northern and London and North-Western railway-stations. The inhabitants of this densely-populated district, though by no means the worst in London, are sunk very low in social and moral depravity. Vice does not stalk unblushingly abroad, but "there we find all those outward circumstances which operate so much against the entrance of the Gospel, and that wide-spread practical infidelity which no arguments can reach." It is a district "where the eye becomes familiar with misery in its thousand forms," and where Sunday trading is almost universal. With the exception of Catholic priests, the Regent-square missionary and his coadjutors long worked alone among this heathenish population. Here, twenty-two years ago, soon after Dr. Hamilton came to London, the office-bearers of the church resolved to commence a mission on the plan of Dr. Chalmers. "Its origin was small, consisting of a few poor children gathered into a room in Spans-buildings; but through the persevering efforts of those friends who originated and carried on the scheme for many years, often in the midst of much discouragement, it has now assumed extensive dimensions."

In the very heart of the district—in Middlesex-street—new mission premises were erected fourteen years ago at a cost of 1,400*l.* A Sunday-school which educates about 400 destitute children, and a flourishing day-school, have gradually risen up in connection with it. There is also an evening service on Sunday attended by some 120 people; and a week-evening adult school, mother's meetings, and a savings-bank are amongst the agencies in use. One missionary, the Rev. Mr. Hoppus, supported by the church, is constantly employed, and a City missionary labours in the district under Dr. Hamilton's direction. The Ladies' Visiting Society also find full employment in the locality. Last year the children of the day-school—which receives a Government grant and is visited by an inspector—contributed 118*l.* in school fees. "The schools," we are told, "are much prized by parents, and are instrumental in enabling the missionary and visitors to obtain an influence in the district they would otherwise not possess." These various operations were conducted last year at an expense of about 600*l.* The results of the work carried on in this neighbourhood for nearly a quarter of a century cannot, of course, be tabulated. But the Regent-square Church has been from time to time recruited from Somers-town, and six years ago the pastor was able thus to report—"Good has been done; poverty and sickness have been relieved; vice and irreligion have been transformed into Christian well-doing; thousands of the rising race have received a sound and religious education; and to the poor at home, as well as the heathen abroad, the Gospel has been preached." The mission (says the Session Report of 1860)—

The mission exercises no inconsiderable influence for good amongst a large class of parents and children in the district. Its projectors must now look with no ordinary degree of satisfaction to the result of their self-denying and remarkably successful labours. While we believe that much good has been accomplished in this densely-populated district by means of the mission, we cannot doubt that reflexly it has operated largely to the spiritual improvement of those who have been its active supporters; it has thus served as an outlet to the Christian sympathies and activities of a large number of our church-members, many of whom have not only given up a large portion of their Sabbath, but also of their week-day time, to visiting and other good works in the district.

We referred last week to the question of over-crowding as bearing upon missions to the poor. The following extract from the report of 1857 indicates that the construction of the Great Northern station, without any provision having been made for the evicted, must have indirectly had a very injurious influence upon the work carried on by Dr. Hamilton's congregation:—

Mr. Fellows enumerates several reasons why still greater efforts should be put forth at Somers-town. He points out that the natural tendency of human nature to degenerate has been accelerated of late by the overflow into it of a great number of the worst description of our population, who formerly had dens in the small houses behind the Great Northern railway-station, and who, on the demolition of their covert there, "moved off to the next worse place—namely, Somers-town." Owing to this our district is from twenty-five to thirty per cent. more densely peopled than before, and the increase is of the baser sort. Now, too, infidelity proclaims its principles with more daring effrontry than it had been wont to venture on, and there is at least one lecture-room in our immediate neighbourhood (Weston-street) devoted to the dissemination of its doctrines.

Though not *par excellence* the "Scotch National Church" in London, Regent-square Church is probably the greatest attraction on the Sabbath to the

\* "Edward Irving: an Ecclesiastical and Literary Biography." By Washington Wilks. London: William Freeman.

many Caledonians who find their way to the metropolis of Great Britain. They could hardly have a better representative among a somewhat anti-Presbyterian population than the Rev. James Hamilton, D.D. who, if not like his great predecessor endowed with the fiery qualities of a Savonarola, is a living exemplar of Christian graces, and an accomplished divine who has the art of commanding the Gospel of Christ in its most winning aspects. The evangelistic work carried on by the congregation over which he presides is not a matter of notoriety, nor can it be said that the Christian public besiege the doors of his church, though a large congregation is always gathered within that stately and spacious building. Dr. Hamilton is better known as a popular Christian author than as a pulpit orator. His books, like the people who have at one time or another worshipped with him, are to be found wherever the English language is spoken, especially in the United States and Australia. His "Life in Earnest" and "Mount of Olives" have been circulated by tens of thousands, and some of his smaller publications have been scattered broadcast over Christendom. So loveable a man is naturally valued at no ordinary rate by an attached congregation. Their feelings towards him find expression in one of the many admirable yearly reports of the "Session," with which quotation we conclude our notice of Regent-square Church:—

We honour ourselves by rendering appropriate homage to a mind so rarely endowed with gifts and graces—to a man pervaded by so excellent a spirit as is found in him—to a life so much in earnest and so winsome, of which so large a part has been spent with ourselves—to so living and loving an epistle, so capable of wooing us to the Saviour—to a mind so fully furnished with knowledge; so capable of transmuting into gold—beyond the dreams of alchemy—whatsoever it touches; so capable of impressing every fact, and almost every fancy, into his Master's service.

**THE SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES.** — On Sunday the eleventh of the special evening services was held in the dome area of St. Paul's Cathedral. There was an immense congregation, it having been announced that the sermon would be preached by the Rev. Dr. F. Temple, head master of Rugby School, and the author of the first article in the volume entitled, "Essays and Reviews." On Sunday morning there was a special service at St. Martin's Hall, Long-acre, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Knox, of Belfast. At St. James's Hall the Rev. W. M. Statham preached in the morning, and Mr. Brownlow North in the evening. The evening service at the Britannia Theatre was conducted by the Rev. Samuel Coley.

**FORST HILL.** — Mr. Elwin Johnson, B.A., of New College, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church assembling at Queen's-road, Forest Hill.

**CLAPHAM.** — The Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., of Ashton-under-Lyne, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Grafton-square Congregational Church, Clapham, of which the Rev. William Hill was formerly the minister.

**BERMONSEY.** — The Rev. Gilbert McAll, of Cheshunt College, has accepted the invitation of the committee of the Surrey Congregational Union to become the minister of the Blue Anchor-road Iron Chapel, Bermondsey.

**KINGSTOWN, IRELAND.** — The Rev. J. B. Wyne, of Cork, has received and accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the church at Kingstown.

**SMETHWICK.** — The Rev. Thomas W. Mays, M.A., of Olney, Bucks, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Smethwick, Birmingham.

**THE REV. W. HARRUTT.** — Of Ullesthorpe, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Independent church and congregation at Yardley Hastings, in Northamptonshire, and will commence his labours there on the second Sabbath in April.

**WALTHAMSTOW.** — **TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.** — Wednesday, March 8th, being the first anniversary of the opening of the new building, was thought a suitable day for commemoration. Accordingly, the friends met together, and, after partaking of tea, a handsome timepiece in black marble, surmounted by a beautiful group in bronze, and bearing an inscription of love and esteem, was presented to the minister, the Rev. Alfred Norris. A silver watch, bearing an inscription of appreciation of his services as organist, was also presented to Mr. W. J. Wright.

**LEICESTER.** — **REOPENING OF BOND-STREET CHAPEL.** — On Tuesday last week, the reopening services took place, in the morning and evening, at this place of worship. The Rev. Thomas Jones preached on both occasions to crowded and deeply-interested congregations, in which almost every religious denomination had representatives. The collections were— $86\frac{1}{2}$ . 5s. 6d., and 37L 6s. 2d.; total, 123L 11s. 8d. The organ has been entirely remodelled and re-voiced throughout. The whole of the work has been done under the superintendence of Mr. John Banfield, of Birmingham, and has given great satisfaction to all who have had the pleasure of hearing the instrument. On Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Bradford, preached, and this evening the Rev. Newman Hall was to occupy the pulpit.

**NORTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.** — The quarterly meeting of the ministers belonging to this association was held in connection with the church at Sans-street, Sunderland, on Tuesday, March 7th. The subject of the conference in the morning was "Ministerial Difficulties," which was introduced by the Rev. W. Walters, and subsequently spoken to by Messrs. Barker, Carrick, Rees, Hanson, Charter, and Price. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Newcastle; and the Rev. A. A. Rees was appointed to prepare a paper on "The best way to fill an empty chapel and keep it full." In the evening a public meeting was held in Sans-street Chapel. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Hanson, Walters, and Rees; and the devotional exercises were conducted by Messrs. Barker, Hills, Price, and Longstaffe. The chapel was filled with a deeply attentive audience.

**LONDONDERRY.** — The annual meeting of the church and congregation was held on Thursday evening, the 16th February. The schoolroom was crowded to excess. After tea, the pastor, the Rev. R. Sewell, called on the treasurer, who read the financial report, from which it appeared that, in addition to what was raised for the support of the pastor and incidental expenses, there were raised during the year 1863-4 over 20L for the Irish Evangelical Society, and nearly an equal amount for the London Missionary, the Jewish, and the Bible Societies. On the motion of Mr. Marc Connor, seconded by Mr. James Rogers, the treasurer's report was passed unanimously. The following are extracts from the pastor's report:—

During the year death and removals have been felt as in former years. Twelve persons have, however, been added to the church, so that, after filling up vacancies, the number in membership is about the same as at the close of last year. During the ten years of our ministry 171 members have been received. The attendance in the Sabbath-school keeps up, and, whilst we desire greater results, it is hoped that the young people are increasing in knowledge, and their missionary zeal has been manifest in raising over 10L for the John Williams. The efforts of the pastor for the young have not been confined to the superintendence of the Sabbath-school—a weekly Bible-class has been kept up in the model school—classes have been held for young women, and opportunities have been sought to benefit the young of both sexes. The district prayer-meetings, chiefly by Mr. Elliott, have been generally well attended. Having completed ten years of his ministry, your pastor looks forward in hope determined to work with greater zeal and perseverance than ever for Christ and for souls. The meeting was afterwards addressed by Messrs. Osborne, T. C. Campbell, and Rev. Edward Tocock.

**BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.** — On Tuesday, the 28th ult., a tea-meeting was held in Cambridge-place schoolroom, Spinkwell (beautifully decorated for the occasion), associated with the church at Salem Chapel, in recognition of the settlement of the Rev. Josiah Andrews, late pastor of the Congregational church, Kingswood, Gloucestershire. Nearly 300 persons partook of an excellent tea. Afterwards the meeting, which was very largely attended, was presided over by the Rev. J. G. Miall, the senior minister. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the chairman, who suitably and kindly introduced the new minister; the Rev. C. W. Shearer, M.A., of Airedale College; Councillor McKean; Messrs. Honiton, F. Stephenson, Yates, Parker (deacons), Wainhouse, Crowther, Wainwright, Popplewell, Webster, of Airedale College, and Hey, all of whom cordially welcomed Mr. Andrews, and heartily wished him much prosperity in his new sphere of labour. The Rev. Josiah Andrews, who was greeted with loud applause, feelingly responded to the reception so warmly and enthusiastically accorded to him, and stated his determination to use his abilities and strength for the prosperity of the cause of Christ. An harmonium, purchased for the use of the congregation and schools, was opened, and several select pieces of music were effectively played by Miss Andrews and Mr. John Hall, jun. (accompanied by the choir recently formed to assist in the performance of Divine worship in that place), in manner which reflected great credit upon them. During the meeting an harmonium was presented to Mr. John Barrett, who for several years has officiated as bass player, as a token of esteem and an acknowledgment of his valuable services. Mr. Barrett acknowledged the gift in a suitable manner, and after votes of thanks to the chairman, the choir, and the ladies for their valuable assistance, the proceedings of this interesting meeting were brought to a close.

**RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.** — The scholars' prize meeting of this valuable association was held on Monday evening at Exeter Hall, on which occasion the various ragged-schools in the metropolis assembled together and filled this vast hall. The Earl of Shaftesbury occupied the chair. The platform was crowded by a large number of the friends of the ragged-school movement, among whom were the Marquis of Westminster, the Countess of Shaftesbury, Lady Victoria Ashley, Lady Edith Ashley, the Hon. W. C. Cowper, Sir R. W. Carden, &c. From 500 to 600 children, together with their teachers, were regaled with tea, after which the public were admitted, and the secretary, Mr. J. G. Gent, read a statement, the effect of which was that the prizes were to be distributed to those who had retained their situations with good character for twelve months or more. During the period that this society had been existing 6,996 prizes had been given, 4,105 to boys, and 2,891 to girls. The average number given each year was 583. There were on the present occasion 570 applicants, of whom 520 had been successful. Of these 212 were boys and 308 girls. The various schools having passed across the platform, the Earl of Shaftesbury distributed the prizes, after which Madame Ernestina recited with beautiful effect Tennyson's poem of the "May Queen." She also read

Thackeray's "Cane-bottom Chair"; after which the children sang a hymn, and Judge Payne addressed the children in an affectionate speech, in which he urged upon them to be kind and gentle in their bearing towards all their equals, and to dumb creatures. He concluded by proposing a cordial vote of thanks to the Earl of Shaftesbury for the support which he had given to this most excellent movement. Sir R. Carden seconded the motion. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in responding, pointed out that by good and orderly conduct, the children whom they saw before them were working an entire revolution in the lower orders of society, and that while they themselves received the reward attendant upon such conduct, they were securing for themselves and the poor generally the care and protection of Almighty God.

**ELLAND.—PROVIDENCE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.** — The Rev. F. Bolton, B.A., of Luton, Bedfordshire, and late of Spring-hill College, Birmingham, has accepted a call recently given him by the church assembling in his above place of worship, and intends entering upon the ministerial labours on the first Sabbath in April.

**HONLEY, HUDDERSFIELD.** — The Congregational chapel here has been closed for several months for the purpose of undergoing sundry alterations and improvements. It is now about ninety years since the chapel was built, and until now, so far as is known, but little has been done towards keeping it in proper repair, so that the building, especially in the interior, had become very much dilapidated, the dry rot having made sad havoc of the woodwork. All the windows are new, as are also the whole of the floors and the pews in the bottom of the chapel; and a warming apparatus has been put down. The chapel has been painted and beautified, and it is now one of the neatest and most comfortable places of worship within the district. The total cost has been upwards of 270L, which has been almost totally cleared off. On Sunday the services in connection with the reopening of the chapel were commenced, when two sermons were preached by the Rev. F. J. Fielding, D.D., principal of Rotherham College. On Thursday afternoon a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bradford. After service a tea-meeting was held in the schoolroom, attended by about 200 persons. In the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, and was presided over by John Crossley, Esq., of Halifax, who said it was very important that they should not needlessly allow the house of God to remain long in debt, and he hoped that the wiping off of that debt would be one of the matters they would attend to on that evening. He mentioned what had been done at Huddersfield—where he said they had managed things wonderfully—having not only paid off the entire outlay of the Hillhouse Chapel, but had a surplus wherewith to carry on some other work. There had been two instances of that sort within the past few weeks, and he supposed they were a part of Huddersfield. He hoped this would be a third similar effort, and he should be sorry, especially as he happened to be there, if they did not go and do likewise. The Rev. H. Hustwick and Mr. James Robinson, the treasurer, having spoken, addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Bruce, of Huddersfield; Rev. J. Williams, of Penistone; Rev. R. Skinner, Rev. R. Green (Wesleyan), both of Huddersfield; and the Rev. E. Henson, of Dogley-lane. Several handsome donations were announced in the course of the evening, and the total amount raised at the meeting was about 102L. On Sabbath, March 5th, two appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. D. Fraser, M.A., LL.D.; at the close of which collections were made to the amount of 11L. It is believed that all the debt will be cleared off in the course of this week.

#### Correspondence.

##### LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR,—Your readers in this district will be glad to learn that at a meeting of the Professorial Committee held this day, it was resolved that every effort should be made to retain the services of Professor Rogers, in the way most agreeable to himself. The committee felt that his name alone was a tower of strength, and that his eminent services in the cause of literature were deserving of all honour—a conclusion which will be enthusiastically endorsed by every well-wisher to the Lancashire College, and by none more cordially than by your correspondent.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A CONSTITUENT.

Manchester, March 13, 1865.

##### THE FREE CHURCHES OF LONDON AND CHRISTIAN WORK.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR,—In order that the various churches in our land may be awakened and stirred to deeds of love and good works, allow me to suggest that the interesting and instructive reports, furnished us through the medium of your paper, of the noble work going on in many of the free churches in London, be printed in the form of tracts and sold for a penny or halfpenny each. Were this done, they could be circulated by the hundred among the members of our churches, and would, I am persuaded, be productive of immense good. Let no time be lost; the sooner the churches catch fire the better.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A CONSTANT READER.

Glasgow, March 11, 1865.

[We hardly know to what extent our correspondent's views are shared by others, but his suggestion is under the consideration of our Publisher.—ED. *Noncon.*]

## CONVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR.—Your article in last week's number on the subject of the proposed inquiry into the management of monasteries and convents, will no doubt carry home conviction to minds alternating betwixt duty and necessity. I cannot wholly see with you as to the duty of abstaining from such inquiry, for the following reasons:—The Protestant (so-called) Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church are essentially antagonistic, and rivals in the strict and literal sense, each aspiring to have in subordination to their control, not only the purses but the consciences of their adherents. As we well know how soon Papal Rome would subserve monarchies and kingdoms to her absolute control and sway, I am inclined to conclude that the investigation would not fail to bring out confirmatory evidence of the fact that the network of Roman Catholicism is being spread in a way we in London can only partially understand; consequently, in this case, the cause of Nonconformity, and of liberty in general, would be promoted by such inquiry.

I am, &c., your constant reader,  
JAMES FIELD.

Islington, March 11, 1865.

## BRITISH SCHOOL, HORNCastle.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

DEAR SIR.—Will you allow me to call the attention of your benevolent readers to the advertisement respecting the Horncastle British School? We could not hope when the effort was commenced to extinguish the debt, but the case having been brought under the notice of S. Morley and J. Crossley, Esqrs., they, in the most handsome manner, both promised me £50. each, on condition that the whole amount was raised. One of our townsmen engaged to give us 50/-, and three others of the old friends of the Institution £50. each, on the like condition. Our jubilee year began in June, and the money yet required must be raised within the year, in order to obtain some of these sums.

The Committee, chosen from the Baptists, Independents, Primitive Methodists, who are especially identified with, and interested in the welfare of these schools, are intensely anxious that they may not lose these noble donations, so nearly within our reach, but which we cannot reach ourselves. The Congregational Board have promised 10/- when we claim the rest. It is but little more than can be done near home; but if only a few kind hearted friends will come to our help, we shall be relieved of a great burden, and feel ourselves laid under a debt of lasting gratitude.

Yours truly,  
ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

## Foreign and Colonial.

## THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The advices from New York by the Europa extend to March 2nd.

The Confederates evacuated Wilmington on the night of the 21st inst., after burning the bridge across Cape Fear River, 1,000 bales of cotton, and 15,000 barrels of resin. The Federals occupied the city on the following morning, and report the capture of 600 prisoners and twenty cannon.

General Johnston assumed command of the forces confronting Sherman on the 23rd ult. Despatches from Charlotte, North Carolina, of the 25th ult., report all quiet, and intimate that Sherman was moving towards the sea-coast. The Richmond papers have been forbidden to publish any details of Sherman's movements.

The steamer Arago, from Charleston on the 26th ult., brings a rumour of the capture of Augusta by a detachment of Sherman's army, and the statement that Columbia, South Carolina, had been burnt in retaliation upon the citizens for firing from the houses upon the Federal troops while passing through the city. Richmond papers also report a conflagration in Columbia, but do not mention its origin.

General Gilmore states that with Charleston 450 cannon, eight locomotives, and much other railway material came into his possession. Deserters to his lines state that Hardee crossed the Sante River to join Johnston on the 25th ult., and that on the 19th 12,000 men from Hood's late army passed through Augusta with the same object.

It is believed in Washington that Sherman has captured Charlotte and Florence, with large stores of cotton. It is reported that Schofield's forces, numbering 20,000 veterans, have formed a junction with Sherman's army near Targetville, N.C. It was rumoured in Richmond that Sherman had at Columbia captured 100,000 bales of cotton.

Confederate accounts of the 28th ult. report Grant massing his forces in the vicinity of Hatcher's Run. Lee was fully prepared to engage him should he attack. Washington despatches report that all non-combatants have been ordered from the army, and that a great battle before Richmond was imminent. But the muddy condition of the roads rendered military movements, for the present, impossible.

General Grant had written a letter to Representative Washburne, of Illinois, in which he says that after a few more days of Federal success the Confederate armies will be placed in a situation whence they cannot escape.

General Lee reports the occupation of the Chattanooga and Knoxville Railway by General Vaughan's cavalry, and the capture of the Federal garrisons at Athens and Sweetwater.

Richmond journals of the 27th ult. discuss the policy of the evacuation of that city. Some believe that it would greatly increase the strength of the military situation, by concentrating all forces in the interior; while others declare that the abandonment of the capital would prove the downfall of the Confederacy. The *Enquirer* complains of the absence of

many of the members of Congress from their seats in this present trying hour to the nation.

Refugees recently arrived in Vicksburg contradict the reported intention of the Confederates to evacuate Mobile, and assert that the late removal of troops and munitions from the city to Selma and Montgomery was for the defence of those places against an anticipated advance by Thomas.

Governor Fenton, of New York, had tendered to the War Department 10,000 State militia for 100 days' garrison duty at Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington, but by the advice of General Grant the offer had been declined.

General Lee, in a letter to Confederate Representative Barksdale, dated the 18th, considers the employment of slaves in the army both expedient and necessary, on the ground that the white population alone cannot supply the necessities of a long war. He declares that they have the requisite qualifications for, and believes they would speedily become, good soldiers, and recommends that a call for those who will volunteer upon the condition of their freedom be immediately authorised by Congress.

Governor Vance, in a proclamation to the people of North Carolina, declares that the only dangers which threaten the cause of Southern independence are the depression consequent upon recent reverses and the risk of internal dissension. The muster-rolls of the Confederacy show the record of 400,000 soldiers, but thousands upon thousands of them are absent without leave. To entreat, to shame, or to drive these men back to the defence of their country's standard, and to the protection of the transport of the hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain and stores of provisions now rotting in the depositories of the South for want of that transport, should be the object of the hour, and when all party bitterness shall be laid aside, and each man standing by his neighbour shall do his whole duty, the liberty and glory of the nation will be insured. He also, in a speech, warns the Southern people that if they do not promptly unite and efficiently act, the fields from which they produce such abundant harvests last year will this year be ploughed by the foe.

The Bill for arming 200,000 slaves has been reintroduced into the Southern Congress, again passed the House of Representatives, but again been rejected by the Senate, this time by only a majority of 1, instead of by the great majority of 13 to 3 which rejected it a few weeks previously. Of course it must be reconsidered, and pass.

Both branches of the Kentucky Legislature have refused, by large majorities, to ratify the constitutional abolition of slavery, even though it should be coupled with compensation to the owner.

The *New York Tribune* looks to Lincoln's next inaugural for indirect overtures, going far to dissolve what remains of the rebellion. It urges that assurances should be expressed of magnanimity and kind treatment for the Southern people. The nation needs peace, not vengeance, and a return to heartfelt loyalty, not slaughter.

The Judiciary Committee of the Jersey Legislature have reported on the Bill to ratify the constitutional amendment, with an amendment to submit it to the people's vote at the next general election. The Common Council of Jersey city have passed a resolution declaring the constitutional amendment an untimely measure, likely to delay the restoration of peace and the Union. The Wisconsin Legislature have passed the constitutional amendment.

The Newbern correspondent of the *New York Herald* asserts that Mr. Haines delivered a speech on the 20th of January last in the North Carolina House of Commons, in which he fearlessly favoured the restoration of the Union, and declared secession to be a failure.

Captain Beale had been executed as a spy.

The Federals were moving from Knoxville. It was expected they would penetrate North Carolina and strike the railroad between Salisbury and Charlotte. The force consisted of seven thousand cavalry, under Averill.

In anticipation of battle between General Sherman and the Confederates, the Government has despatched a corps of surgeons and nurses to his army *via* Wilmington, N.C.

Gold was 98½ pm. on the 2nd inst.

## FRANCE.

In the debate on the Address on the Senate there have been some curious speeches. The Marquis de Boissy expressed a wish that the Ministers should be responsible for the policy of the Government. He deplored the insertion in the *Moniteur* of M. Duruy's report, which he characterised as socialist. He pointed out the deplorable conduct pursued by England, which was still the asylum of assassins ready to attempt the life of the Emperor, and continued:—

I do not believe that the Convention of September will ever be carried out. It is necessary that the Pope should remain in Rome, for if France is Bonapartist, much more is she Catholic.

Marshal Magnan in energetic language condemned the assertion of the Marquis de Boissy that on the day of the Emperor's death France would fall into a state of anarchy. Such expressions were much to be regretted. When this event occurred, the Senate, the Corps Législatif, the army and the country would proclaim the Prince Imperial, and France would be saved. The Marquis de Boissy then continued. He condemned the French intervention in Mexico, but strongly expressed a wish that the war between the Federals and Confederates might be carried on to the complete ruin of both belligerents, rather than that

the French army in Mexico should be made prisoner by the conclusion of peace. (Loud expressions of disapprobation). The Marquis de Boissy hoped, in conclusion, that the Emperor and his dynasty would long continue to reign. M. Chaix d'Est-Ange asked what the Marquis de Boissy understood by the expression that he wished to see a parliamentary government re-established in the country. He (M. Chaix d'Est-Ange) did not wish to see the country governed by the Chambers. He regretted the impious wishes respecting America, and condemned the expressions of M. de Boissy in reference to England.

Cardinal Donnet made a speech on paragraph 13, relating to the connexion between the Church and the State. His Eminence said he did not wish to increase the excitement aroused by the Encyclical, but would endeavour to re-establish harmony. He demonstrated that the Encyclical did not forbid the practice of certain liberties which had become a portion of public law. The object of the efforts of the French clergy was to show that there was no contradiction between the French Constitution and the Pontifical doctrine. He recalled the eternal alliance that had existed between France and the Church, and said he should vote against the paragraph if the Government did not declare that nothing should be omitted which would tend to re-establish a good understanding between the Church and the State. M. Stourm maintained the rights of the State, as well as the doctrine of the Concordat.

The Duc de Morny died on Friday morning. In him the French Emperor loses a staunch adherent, a man not troubled with many scruples, but one who carried into the Legislature the courage and obedience to the head of the State which he displayed when in younger days he carried a lance in the army. Since 1854, M. de Morny has been President of the Corps Législatif. His funeral took place on Monday at the expense of the State, and with great pomp, at the cemetery of Père le Chaise. An immense crowd accompanied the *cortege*. Eloquent orations in honour of the deceased were delivered by M.M. Rouher and Schneider.

M. Duruy, the French Minister of Public Instruction, tendered his resignation to the Emperor. The Emperor, however, declined to receive it. The cause of this was the recent antagonism between M. Duruy and the rest of the Cabinet on the subject of primary education. A report recommending compulsory instruction, and signed by M. Duruy, appeared the other day in the *Moniteur*. Next day's *Moniteur* disclaimed the report as official, representing it merely as the expression of an individual opinion, and put forward a scheme of quite a different kind as the Government project. M. Duruy had nothing to do but to tender his resignation, which, as we have said, was not accepted. M. Duruy's side was taken at the Privy Council by Prince Napoleon, who is a warm advocate of compulsory education.

The clerical papers, and some few of a different stamp, such as the *Débats*, approve of the repudiation of the Minister's report, while the *Siecle*, the *Opinion Nationale*, the *Temps*, and other journals pronounce in favour of M. Duruy's scheme.

## ITALY.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the proposal to abolish capital punishment has been under discussion. The Minister of Justice declared himself in favour of the abolition on principle, but he did not think the present condition of public safety allowed of an immediate abolition. On Monday the articles of the bill for the abolition of the penalty of death for crimes committed under the common law were agreed to by 150 against 91 votes. Three members abstained from voting. Capital punishment is maintained in the military and naval codes, and in the laws against brigandage.

Victor Emmanuel has left Milan for Florence.

The King of Italy has issued a decree granting a full amnesty to all persons convicted of political and press offences, including those compromised by the affair of Aspromonte.

The question of the suppression of religious orders is now being agitated at Naples. The priests are very busy getting up petitions against the measure, and they are said to use their pens very freely in the way of adding the signatures of illiterate persons. The zeal of a certain community has just supplied the advocates of suppression with a telling argument. Five little girls, of from thirteen to fourteen years of age, attended the school of the Sisters of Charity. One day, lately, instead of returning to their homes, the five pupils sent letters to their respective parents, saying that they had been suddenly touched by the Divine grace, and inspired to withdraw to a distant retreat, where it would be impossible to find them, so that no one need trouble to seek for them. The parents did not appreciate this manifestation of Divine favour, and applied to the police. Inquiries at the convent brought out nothing. The nuns all denied having any knowledge of the runaways' retreat, and so did the Father Superior, a monk of the order *Dei Virgini*. The chief of the police, however, made the good Father understand that the affair might have more serious consequences than he imagined, and then the holy man let fall the word Vietri, the name of a place near Salerno, where the Sisters of Charity have another convent. There the fugitives were found. The story is said to have created a "lively sensation" at Naples.

Rumours of a Ministerial crisis are circulating in the Turin papers. It is said that General La Marmora is at issue with some of his colleagues respecting the visit of King Victor Emmanuel to the former capital of the new kingdom.

## ROME.

M. de Sartiges, French Ambassador at Rome, has formally recommended the Pope to raise an army. The Pope has as formally refused, declaring that the Italian Convention is a nullity, and that he trusts in Providence. He has also issued an invitation to the jubilee, in which he asserts that the Pope "has authority to speak to the whole Church, and the man who listens not is declared by himself no longer to belong to the Church, no longer to be a member of the fold of Christ, and as a consequence no longer to have a right to the eternal inheritance of Heaven."

A consistory is to be held at Rome at the end of March.

## PRUSSIA.

In Monday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies a debate took place on the position of religious Dissenters in Prussia. The Minister of Public Worship said that Article 12 of the Constitution protected the Dissenters, and that the report of the committee acknowledged that they had not been subjected to any oppression. "The creed of the Dissenters is," the Minister said, "an aberration which must be left to its natural course. The national welfare is based upon the belief in God as revealed in the Old and New Testaments, and this is the principle which guides the Government."

## AUSTRIA.

In the sitting of the Finance Committee of the Lower House on the 8th, the Minister of Finance declared that the Government intended to maintain their proposals respecting the reductions in the Budget for 1865, and stated that they did not regard the report of the sub-committee as suitable for further discussion. The Finance Committee therupon resolved to break off negotiations with the Government on the subject. The discussion on the Military Budget was then concluded, and the reduction of 15,000,000 florins was agreed to.

The state of siege in Galicia will be raised on the 18th of April.

## TURKEY.

Despatches from Constantinople report that the Ottoman Government has refused to accept the resignation of Daoud Pacha, Governor-General of Syria, who demanded, and still persists in demanding, to be allowed to resign in consequence of the return of Joseph Karam to the Lebanon.

## AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The news from New Zealand is unfavourable. The Tauranga natives are in rebellion, and the Waikato Maories are said to be preparing to help their brethren of the Taranaki district to resist the British forces.

A fine comet is visible at the Antipodes. It is supposed to be the comet of 1843 returned, according to the prediction of Sir John Herschell, in twenty-one years and nine months after its former visit.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A Turin telegram states that Prince Arthur has arrived at Naples.

There are, it is said, no fewer than 36,000 French Canadians alone in the Federal army.

The eruptions of Vesuvius and Etna appear likely to be followed by an outbreak of Stromboli.

It is said that the Emperor Napoleon reads with great interest all articles published in the European press on the subject of his "Julius Caesar."

General McClellan has been at Rome some days, and is the guest of his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Storey.

The Secret National Government at Warsaw appears to be still in existence. It has published five new decrees, dated 30th January and 12th February, 1865.

The monument of Melanchthon is to be inaugurated on the 25th of June next, the anniversary of the presentation of the Augsburg Confession. The monument will stand on the market-place of Wittenberg, alongside that of Luther.

Several respectable citizens of Flensburg have been arrested for sending an address to the Emperor of the French, asking for his Majesty's support to obtain a restoration of North Schleswig to Denmark.

HIGH-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH FREE EVANGELICAL CHURCHES.—A conference was held on Wednesday, at the Common-hall, Hackin's Hey, for the purpose of considering the conduct and character of the high-school education in England, and the interest which the Free Evangelical Churches of this country have in providing schools which shall combine the advantages of the best public schools with due securities for unsectarian religious and moral training. Mr. W. Crossfield presided, and Mr. Francis Watts (late divinity tutor, Spring-hill College, Birmingham) made some remarks upon the necessity of the schools, and as an example of their practicability instanced the great success of the Tettenhall Proprietary School, conducted by the Rev. R. Halley, M.A., near Wolverhampton. On the motion of the Rev. James Mann, seconded by Mr. A. Brown, a resolution was passed in favour of the extension of the system of high-school education as described. The proposal has, we understand, been warmly taken up in Manchester and other towns, and there is no doubt that in Liverpool an active organisation will also be formed.—*Daily News.*

## ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE CITY OF LONDON.—It is said that Mr. R. N. Fowler will contest the City in the Conservative interest, and in addition that three other gentlemen will be brought forward on the same side.

MARYLEBONE.—Rumours are rife that a Conservative of high standing and of large fortune will contest this metropolitan borough with Lord Fermoy and Mr. Harvey Lewis at the next election. Certain it is that legal gentlemen who have taken part in previous political contests in the borough are receiving retainers, which looks as if a contest was anticipated.—*Observer.*

BLACKBURN.—A memorial is in course of signature in Blackburn by the Liberal electors to Mr. John Gerald Potter, of Mytton Hall, near Whalley, requesting him to stand as a candidate at the forthcoming election.

NORTH WILTS.—The new writ having been moved for on Thursday night, Mr. Sootheron Estoort has issued a farewell address to the electors. The Conservatives having been unsuccessful in their endeavour to induce Captain Walsh, a nephew of the Duke of Beaufort, to stand in opposition to Lord Charles Bruce, are now, at the eleventh hour, engaged in getting up a requisition to Mr. J. L. Phipps, of Leighton House, Westbury, a near neighbour of Mr. Walter Long, to come forward as a candidate. Mr. Phipps is known as an active magistrate, and as one of the staunchest Conservatives in the county.

CANTERBURY.—Lord Athlumney has issued an address to the electors of Canterbury, announcing his retirement. The Liberals have brought forward Major Lyon as a candidate for the pending vacancy, and his address offering himself has appeared simultaneously with that of Lord Athlumney. At the election on the resignation of the Hon. Henry Butler-Johnstone in 1862, Major Lyon was the defeated candidate, Mr. H. A. Butler-Johnstone, the Conservative, being returned by a majority of three only. Major Lyon is an advanced Liberal. He is in favour of an extension of the suffrage, the ballot, and the abolition of Church-rates.

FROME.—Lord Edward Thynne having announced his intention to retire at the next election, a very active canvass has been pursued during the past week by Sir Henry Rawlinson, in the Liberal interest, and by Mr. Wickham, a resident in the town, on the part of the Conservatives. The constituency is small, and pretty equally divided.

NORTH ESSEX.—Major Beresford is understood to have declared his inability to meet the heavy expenses of a contested election, and to have tendered his resignation. Some of the North Essex Conservative electors are not disposed to part with their old friend, but it remains to be seen whether they will rally round him. Sir T. B. Western, Bart., of Felix Hall, Kelvedon, is expected to be the Liberal candidate, but has not yet positively announced his intention to come forward.

BODMIN.—Mr. Locock Webb, a London barrister, comes forward in the Conservative interest. Mr. Wyld, one of the sitting members, will, as well as Mr. Gower, offer himself for re-election. Thus there are three rivals for the favours of the 418 electors of the little Cornish borough. A fourth is about to appear in the field, in the shape of no less a person than Lord Ranleigh, well-known to volunteers. He comes forward as a Conservative.

KINCARDINESHIRE.—General Arbuthnott has published his retiring address, and two candidates, Mr. Dyce Nicol, of Ballogie, and Sir Thomas Gladstone, brother to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are in the field for the seat. Mr. Nicol comes forward on Liberal principles. Sir Thomas offers himself as a Conservative, meaning, he says, by that short term, a loyal subject, a defender of the Protestant faith, a steadfast supporter of constitutional Government, and a resolute opponent of all that is dangerous to it.

## THE NEW REFORM MOVEMENT.

On Saturday afternoon last a friendly conference between a body of middle and working-class Reformers took place at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, with the object of coming to some agreement as to the basis upon which a proposed new Reform movement should be carried on. There were present twenty-nine representatives appointed at a meeting of the working classes lately held at St. Martin's Hall, all connected with some of the largest trade and other working-class associations of the metropolis. Among the middle-class Reformers present were Mr. E. Beales, Captain E. D. Rogers, Mr. Samuel Morley, &c., Mr. John Bright, M.P., Mr. Lawson, M.P., Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., and Mr. A. S. Ayrton, M.P.; and letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Sir M. Peto, M.P., and Mr. Hadfield, M.P. Mr. Edmond Beales having been called to the chair, read the circular by which the meeting had been convened, and the resolutions adopted by the working classes at the meeting held at St. Martin's Hall, which declared that no measure of Parliamentary reform would be considered satisfactory by the working classes that did not recognise the principle of a registered and residential manhood suffrage, protected by the ballot. He then called upon the deputation to state their views on the subject. Messrs. Odgers, Connolly, Davis, Cremer, Potter, Niess, Whitlock, and Henriette then successively addressed the meeting, and stated that the working men were not prepared to enter into any agitation for a less extension of the franchise than manhood suffrage, protected by the ballot, and hoped that a large number of the middle-class Reformers

were prepared to operate with them on that platform. At the same time the working classes would not offer any obstruction to a measure brought forward for a smaller extension of the franchise. A long discussion followed, during which Mr. Bright, M.P., and Mr. Ayrton, M.P., expressed their opinions in favour of household suffrage as the most likely to command the support of the present electoral body. They did not believe there was any likelihood of a large co-operation by the middle classes on a manhood-suffrage platform, but they would offer no opposition to such co-operation. Mr. S. Morley and Captain Rogers took the same view of the matter, the latter, however, declaring himself an advocate of the principle of manhood suffrage. Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., Mr. Lawson, M.P., and other speakers advocated manhood suffrage, and were prepared to co-operate with the working classes in an agitation on that basis. The chairman also expressed the same views. Ultimately a resolution was adopted, almost unanimously, the members of the working-men's deputation not voting, to the effect that the middle-class Reformers present were prepared to co-operate with the working men on the proposed basis of manhood suffrage, and recommend the same course to middle-class Reformers throughout the country. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, and to Mr. Mason Jones for his trouble in convening the meeting.

The executive of the National Reform Union have resolved to hold a great reform conference at Manchester on the 20th and 21st of April, when delegates from all the branch associations, as well as from all other reform bodies throughout the United Kingdom, will be invited to attend.

## Postscript.

Wednesday, March 15, 1865.

## YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords the Bankruptcy and Insolvency (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill was referred to a select committee, after a brief discussion.

The British Kaffraria Bill and the Election Petitions Act (1848) Amendment Bill passed through committee.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH called attention to the case of the lunatic nun, Mary Ryan. Earl RUSSELL agreed that the removal of Mary Ryan was illegal, but it was found that she was now insane, and it was thought most advisable not to remove her. He thought it would be better if the Roman Catholics would provide lunatic asylums in this country. The Earl of MALMSESBURY argued that it was the duty of the Home Secretary to teach the heads of conventional establishments what the law was.

The House adjourned at a quarter to seven o'clock.

In the House of Commons, on the motion for the second reading of the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Eastern Railway Bill, Viscount GALWAY moved its rejection. After a lengthy discussion, the bill was thrown out by 162 votes to 121.

Sir F. KELLY moved for a select committee to inquire into the claim of his Highness Prince Azeem Jah to the title and dignity of Nawab of the Carnatic, and the claims of his Highness under a treaty entered into in 1801 between the Honourable East Indian Company and his Highness Prince Azeem ul Dowlah. A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Sir C. Wood characterised the proposition for a committee as monstrous. All the papers connected with the affair were before the House, and he contended that they showed clearly that the claim of Prince Azeem Jah was not just.

The motion was rejected by 53 votes to 38.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock.

The Committee of the National Rifle Association have agreed upon recommending Brighton as the site for the Easter Monday Volunteer Review. They state that there are insuperable objections against the selection of Dover.

The Rev. John Davis, the ordinary of Newgate, died very suddenly yesterday morning. The rev. gentleman got into an omnibus to ride to the prison, and fell back fainting on the seat. He was carried to Newgate and removed to the governor's room, and there it was found that he was dead.

In yesterday's meeting of the French Senate, the principal speech was delivered by Cardinal de Bonnechose, who defended the clergy from the vigorous strictures of M. Rouland. The cardinal gave utterance to a pious hope that the Minister would one day regret the manner in which he had assailed the clerical party.

The Italian Minister of Finance made his statement yesterday. He reckons upon a deficit up to the end of 1867 of 427,000,000L, which he proposes to meet principally by a loan. This deficit of course is made up of the accumulated deficiencies of several years beginning with 1862.

## MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day, the arrivals of English wheat were small. The trade, however, was very quiet; nevertheless, good and fine dry samples supported previous rates. The supply of foreign wheat on sale was but moderate. In most descriptions, sales progressed slowly, at late prices. Floating cargoes of grain were in fair demand, at previous quotations. The supply of barley on sale was moderate, and all qualities, including even fine malting produce, sold heavily, at Monday's currency.

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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865.

## SUMMARY.

THE relations between the French Emperor and the Roman Pontiff have entered upon a new stage. A few days ago the French Ambassador at Rome formally invited his Holiness to take measures in prospect of the departure of the French two years hence. The resolution of the Emperor to withdraw the troops was spoken of as unalterable, and the step might be taken, it was declared, even earlier. His Holiness was, therefore, entreated to form an army for his protection, and French assistance was promised to enable him to carry out the measure. The reply of the Pope was as uncompromising as ever. He was no party to the Franco-Italian Convention, and utterly ignored it; and when the French left he felt confident that he should be protected by the most powerful Power of all—by Providence. It still appears possible, however, that the Pope will, sooner or later, follow the advice of his protector, and that when he has given up all hope of shaking the Imperial resolution, he will, spite of lofty protests, begin to organise a defensive force.

There are no signs in France that the numerous protests of the Catholic bishops against the Ministerial circular relative to the Encyclical have alarmed the Government. That extraordinary document has been discussed by several speakers in the senatorial debates on the Address, and the bishops who have spoken have adopted rather an apologetic tone. But the elaborate attack of M. Rouland, formerly Minister of Public Instruction, on Ultramontanism, has excited a great sensation, and is spoken of as one of the most remarkable and important speeches ever delivered in the French Senate. The ex-Minister spoke of the Encyclical as having been launched by way of reprisal for the Convention of September; denounced the Ultramontanists as the occult but "sovereign masters" of the French Church, who "usurped and troubled the administration of the dioceses; encouraged the inferior bishops to make no account of their bishops, but to look for orders direct from Rome; sacrificed the secular and national clergy to the regular orders, the congregationalists, whose only country was Rome; and weakened and humiliated the episcopacy, and sought to reduce it to the state of a vicariate." The regular clergy were described as being under a system of terrorism, and in a pitiable state of vassalage; the bishops surrounded "by an invisible cordon of surveillance, the object and effect of which was to enforce passive obedience in the episcopacy." M. Rouland thought that the Emperor would be obliged to take new measures to maintain the rights of the country against this *imperium in imperio*. So studied and elaborate an attack upon the Ultramontane system can hardly have been made without the knowledge and sanction of the Emperor, and probably points to some scheme for the independence of the Gallican Church, which is well known to find favour with the head of the State.

The American news is of the same tenor as the reports for many weeks past, and seems to justify the remark of the *Times* that the South is "bleeding to death." Wilmington has been

abandoned by the Confederates, the garrison having made good its retreat; and the large Federal force engaged in its reduction has marched inland to effect a junction with Sherman. Of that General's movements we hear nothing—the Southern papers being forbidden to publish ought on the subject. It is supposed, however, that he was marching towards Raleigh, the capital of North Carolina, where reinforcements would reach him from the coast. Wilmington would then be his future base of operations. But if, as the Richmond papers say, Sherman is so overwhelmingly strong that he requires no base, he may be marching direct towards the Danville Railway, to sever Lee's communications entirely with the South. Johnston, who has superseded Beauregard, was retiring before the great Federal General, who is known to be in expectation of eventually fighting a great battle with Lee's veterans, which will decide the fate of the Southern Confederation.

Great alarm prevails at Richmond, and preparations were being made for the evacuation of that city. The Confederate House of Representatives had again passed the bill for arming 200,000 slaves, in accordance with the advice of General Lee: but it was once more rejected by the Senate by a majority of one. It is not easy to see how this measure—the last resource of the Confederates—can help them in their extremity. Whence are 200,000 negroes to be collected, at a time when nearly every Southern State is cut off from the Confederate capital, and railway communication destroyed? "There is not," says the *Richmond Enquirer*, "a slave in Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee. Slavery has disappeared in one-half of Virginia, and practically exists nowhere in her limits." In the Gulf States there are abundance of slaves, but their owners have refused to surrender their chattels for the common good. They are implored to reconsider their vote, and keep to their contract of mutual support. "The slaves must be given," says the *Enquirer*, "or we may perish." On this the *Daily News* correspondent remarks:—"The spectacle of the slaveholders of the South, who were quite certain four years ago that negroes were mere cattle, and that they could march all over the North with a small army, calling on their slaves to save them from the Yankees, as a last resource, is certainly both singular and suggestive."

The domestic news of the week is very meagre. The unexpected stoppage of Attwood's Bank has excited great consternation and distress in Birmingham and its neighbourhood, but does not seem to affect other establishments.—There are signs that the great lock-out in the iron trade is not likely to last long, the course taken by the "puddlers" of North Staffordshire being disapproved of by the great body of their fellow-workmen, especially by the "mill-men" of the district, who have signed a document, which it is hoped will form the basis of an arrangement.—It will be seen that the new Parliamentary reform association is being organised under the auspices of public men, whose name will be a tower of strength to the movement. Parliamentary reformers ought to close their ranks; and it is to be hoped that no jealousies or rival pretensions will be allowed to impair their future action.

## ENGLAND, CANADA, AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE debate in the House of Commons on Monday night *apropos* of the report of Colonel Jervois, and of the steps which Government propose to take for the defence of Canada, contrasts very favourably with that in the House of Lords upon which we commented a short time since. In matters of deep national interest, it is not uncommon to find the popular branch of Legislature more thoughtful, more temperate, more statesmanlike, than the patrician. Undoubtedly, such has been the case in reference to nearly every question which has arisen out of the American war. Imperfect and inadequate as is our machinery of representation, it cannot be denied that the real opinion of the people of the United Kingdom is more fully reflected by the House of Commons than by the House of Lords. What may be called, without meaning offence, the oligarchical view of broad questions of national policy, is naturally expressed with more vividness by the Peers than by the Commons—and what may be regarded as the popular view is more fully represented by the Commons than by the Peers. There are topics upon which the "gentlemen's" opinion is most to be relied on—and there are subjects—and those generally the widest and most important—on which the "men's" opinion is much to be preferred. To the latter class, all that relates to the great American Republic, may, we think, be safely

distributed. The difference between the two classes is mainly a difference of sentiment and sympathy. The oligarchs naturally side with oligarchs—the people can best interpret the people.

There exists, just at the present moment, in some quarters, a tolerably settled conviction that the tragedy of civil discord is on the eve of being brought to a close in America, and an apprehension that it will be followed by demands upon this country which will leave it no alternative but war. The "City" is uneasy. The Exchange flutters. The "upper ten thousand," now, as more than once or twice before, are on the very verge of panic. The great political organ of the capitalist class veers to and fro with amusing violence. The funds have taken a fit of the sulks, and won't go up in response to any amount of coaxing. War with America is now the bugbear, just as a French invasion has been, of men who deal in stocks and shares. They are a timorous, but a very influential, segment of the community. They are more affected than any other by rumours. They gamble to so large an extent upon remote prospects, that they have habituated themselves to mistake their hopes and fears, or at least the nebulous phenomena which excite them, for realities. They are the augurs of our day. They watch the flight of birds, and inspect the entrails of beasts—newspaper articles and political buncombe—as infallible indications of the proximate future. They are, as Mr. Bright said, almost always wrong, especially in their forebodings—but their conjectures about what is about to happen, and the terrors to which they give rise, are contagious within their own circle, and a panic in the Money Market, however irrational, communicates itself with strange rapidity to large classes of well-to-do people outside. The debate in the Lords, followed up by certain disgraceful articles in the *Times*, has rather suddenly disturbed the equanimity of that portion of the public that believes in the inseparable connexion of rank and wealth with political foresight and wisdom. It has been fretting for some time past, it knows not why. All its predictions respecting the issue of the civil war in America are turning out to be illusions. All its sympathies are being cruelly trodden down by events. It consults the stars afresh. It sees in certain conjunctions the signs of coming calamities. It grows feverish. It is too agitated to maintain reticence—and so it comes to pass that, in the absence of a single well-authenticated fact to justify its apprehensions, it begets an impression that the victorious North will fall incontinently on Canada.

We are not sorry, therefore, that as the Lords have had their turn, the Commons also have taken theirs. It will be generally admitted, we think, that the latter have greatly the advantage of the former. We are not about to refer to individual speeches. The tone of the whole debate was that of an assembly conscious of the weighty responsibility resting upon it. It was high-spirited enough for the greatest admirer of what is called national "pluck"—but it was not passionate, nor irritating. It elicited, as might have been expected, a great variety of opinions—but, on the whole, it was not calculated to misrepresent to the Government and people of America the general temper of the English people. Three or four positions of the utmost importance were, in our opinion, established by it, above the reach of controversy. In the first place, we have learnt upon the highest authority that the existing Government at Washington, so far from having borne itself in a blustering and minacious manner towards this country, has evinced a moderation and friendliness highly creditable to it, considering the annoyances and difficulties to which it has been exposed. It has, indeed, put on record certain claims, as our own Government has done—but it has reserved them for more leisurely discussion, and offers to submit them to fair arbitration. In the second place, it seems to be clear that the British Government is neither doing nor contemplating anything which they have reason to believe will endanger existing amicable relations. It is certain that the great bulk of our own community depurate war with America as the most terrible calamity of which they can conceive—and it is hardly less certain that the main body of freeholders in the United States, by whose votes the policy of the Republic is controlled, entertain neither the intention nor the desire to involve America in a second, a foreign, an unnecessary, and a merely vindictive war. It has come out distinctly that there is an end to whatever irritated feeling there was between the States and Canada. It has been pretty well ascertained that, in case of war, Canada is not now, and cannot be made by any amount of help we can give her, defensible against her powerful neighbour, and that the probabilities are that, in the event of aggression, we should not adopt the selection by the Union, of Canada as the battle-field. There is no ground of quarrel as yet. There is no dis-

position on either side, on the part of those who can make a quarrel, to find ground for it. There is nothing to be got by it but unspeakable misery to both countries. Such being the state of the case, we can discover no cause for reasonable apprehension—and, inasmuch as the interests at stake are of such illimitable magnitude, moral as well as commercial, we do not, cannot believe, that a few irresponsible newspaper scribes, or even a clique of influential Peers, can have it in their power to kindle a conflagration at which all who care for truth, liberty, and progress, might well stand aghast.

Nevertheless, the particular proposals of our Government for strengthening the defences of Canada strike us as not merely unwise but pusillanimous. Those who deem otherwise would do well to read and ponder the speech of Mr. Lowe. We are asked by Lord Palmerston—for nobody can be at a loss to trace the scheme to him—to throw away a handsome sum upon fortifications which all experience compels us to regard as worse than useless. Far more statesmanlike are the closing words of the right hon. member for Calne. "That this war may be averted must be the prayer of all of us. It would be one of the greatest calamities that could befall either country—perhaps even the whole human race; and it is because I wish to destroy every excuse for war and every incentive to war—because I am convinced the English troops in Canada, though powerless to defend, are numerous enough to provoke—that I say our wisest course in the interests of peace, and for carrying on a successful war, if war there must be, would be at once to withdraw our troops from Canada."

#### THE LOCK-OUT IN THE IRON TRADE AND THE INDUSTRIAL REGIME OF THE FUTURE.

DISTRESSING as is the aspect now presented in one of the chief departments of our native industry, it is impossible for the contemplative mind to restrict its solicitude entirely to the immediate issues of the struggle which is now taking place. A community of nearly 70,000 men, suspended, with their wives and families, for an unknown period from their accustomed means of subsistence, is a spectacle sufficient of itself entirely to engage our commiseration, for we must instinctively feel that beneath it there lies a repetition of the vicarious domestic misery with which our industrial classes have lately been so unfortunately familiar. But beyond the distress of the moment, and the bitterness of feeling which is sure to survive the conflict, it is impossible to ignore the question of the future relationship of the interests which are in dispute on so gigantic a scale, or to avoid asking ourselves, however imperfect the data which we at present possess, whether the struggles between opposing combinations, such as that of which we are now the helpless witnesses, are to be a normal condition of the manufacturing interests of the country. Are these, we naturally ask, the necessary liabilities of the eminence we enjoy as the leading manufacturing nation? Is this the price we must be prepared to pay in return for the wealth of natural resources with which our land is endowed? Or are the present unfortunate disputes between the employers and employed to be taken to denote a transition towards economic relations far more satisfactory and far more advantageous to the nation at large?

The occasion which gives rise to such speculations is one, which, though similar in its main features to those with which the public are acquainted, has certain characteristics of its own which should receive an independent recognition, inasmuch as it may lead to an instructive development of the mutual relations which have to be adjusted, and may therefore reward a careful and unprejudiced observation of the successive stages of the consummation which has now unfortunately been reached. In a review of the facts of the case, it should not be overlooked that a question which now threatens to unite the trade societies throughout the country against the body of the iron-trade capitalists was confined in the first instance to the smallest district in connection with the National Association of the men. On the 16th January last, 950 of the men who are employed in the process of puddling, that is, in stirring about pig-iron molten on the bed of a reverberating furnace until it becomes converted into malleable iron, with 250 of the men who are employed in an attendant process at the mills, struck work in the district of North Staffordshire, in consequence of a proposed reduction in wages. It is also to be noticed that the reduction, according to public statements of the masters, which have not yet been impugned, still left a balance of wages in favour of the puddlers of one shilling per ton, or 12½ per cent., as against the standard of payment hitherto agreed upon. In other districts of the manufacture the reduced rate was accepted by the men, but with the

private understanding, as it subsequently appears, that the puddlers of the North Staffordshire district should be supported in their refusal to work on the lower scale. A combination so formidable as to extend to the amalgamated societies of the Tyne and the Tees, and a policy so effectual for a series of successful strikes in the absence of a similar combination on the part of the masters, was promptly and unflinchingly retaliated upon the men, tens of thousands of whom, with dependent wives and families, are involved in the responsibility for acts which they did not originate. But pending the execution of a measure so signal in its aim, and so tremendous in its consequences, a national council of the men met to reconsider the step that had been taken. The delegates eventually recommended the resumption of work by the North Staffordshire men on the terms proposed by the masters. But, unhappily, this apparent reversal of the policy has proved a double failure. It not only failed to procure the return to the furnaces and mills of the men who were out upon strike, but by awakening the suspicion that the recommendations to resume work were only ostensible, and intended to divide the masters in opinion, it increased the distrust with which the professions of the Unions were viewed. It is not necessary for the purposes of our inquiry to assume that the Union of Ironworkers have not since done their utmost in good faith to meet the requirements of the ironmasters, especially, as according to the *Newcastle Chronicle*, an organ of the men, the North Staffordshire puddlers are virtually independent of the support of the Unions, having commenced the struggle with a reserve fund of 17,000*l.* or 18,000*l.* They may therefore be beyond the control of the Gateshead and Brierly Hill Committees, and may in addition have acquired a natural sensibility and animus which the lapse of each day but confirms. But it is essential for our information to notice that which is certainly novel in degree, if not in kind, in the policy of the masters who are concerned in the lock-out. Whilst it is no new thing to find the cause of the men adopted and aided by their fellow Unionists in other trades, it is the first time that these organisations have received so full a recognition and so strategic an antagonism on the part of the masters themselves, or that the men have been compelled to realise such a demonstration of the power of counter-combination.

Viewing, then, the facts of the case as at present reported, and as those who have rather to watch the development of the struggle than to assume the functions of those who must be credited with wisdom for the crisis, we think it not unlikely that the economic problems for solution, inasmuch as they are being diminished to a narrower area, are becoming undeniably simpler in character. It is obvious that in any threatened recurrence of the calamity we have been considering, the data for both masters and men will have been reduced by mutual acquaintance, and by a knowledge of the more tremendous consequences which will henceforth be involved in similar differences. It may be that much misunderstanding has yet to be removed by a repetition of evils which are shared by both the combatants; but it may also be that when the existence of the power of combination has been demonstrated, it will exert its influence potentially, or, in the words of a liberal writer who is well entitled to be heard upon the philanthropic aspects of political economy—we allude to Mr. Henry Fawcett—"the influence of the power of combination will be exerted without the power being brought into action." Further dislocations in the members of the industrial body may make us for a time nationally poorer, and our continental rivals proportionately richer, but it is no new theory to the political economist that the great strikes which have recently taken place provide the only security against their future occurrence. We cannot but feel, however, that the honesty with which the lessons of these public calamities is received by those whom it primarily concerns is the measure of the truth of the theory, and that in an approximate estimate of the future of these questions it is impossible to ignore the influence of those moral forces which even political economy cannot afford to pass over. If these constituents in the problems to be considered to-day in the Council of the Trade Societies of the kingdom, receive their appropriate homage—if good temper, judgment, forbearance, and large-heartedness, preside at the critical discussion which is impending—it may be hoped that a community of feeling and interest between masters and men is a nearer consummation than could have been looked for prior to the lock-out.

#### NOTES OF THE SESSION.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced that the financial statement will be made much later than usual, on or about the

27th of April, in order that public business may be expedited. A long Session is therefore in prospect.

The adjourned debate on the state of the British navy was brought to a close on Thursday. Sir Morton Peto began by endorsing all the charges made on a former evening by Sir John Pakington, and the views of so experienced a man of business, who has no party objects to serve by his criticism, are deserving of serious consideration by the country.

The House of Commons, he said, during the last five years had given the Government 58,000,000*l.* of money, and he wanted to know whether at the present moment we had a navy, which, if hostilities unfortunately broke out, was equal to the emergency. (Hear, hear.) He had not the slightest hesitation in saying that we had not. (Hear, hear.) The remarks of the right hon. baronet the member for Droitwich were not at all overstrained; and from what he observed, and what he heard even from officers in the service, a great portion of the ships recently sent to sea, all armour plated, whether on iron or wooden frames, were not seaworthy. Now, that was a position in which the country ought not to be placed—(Hear, hear), and the Government was bound to explain how it came to pass.

*Apropos* of the state of our dockyards, and the absence of modern improvements in them, Sir Morton Peto said that the chief engineer of the United States had lately visited them, and had remarked that he should have thought that the whole thing had been constructed shortly after the Ark. In referring to the huge fortifications which are being constructed for the defence of our dockyards, he adverted to the important question of their future armament. According to the report of the Defence Commissioners, 1,944 guns would be required to arm them effectually, which would involve an expense of 17,624,304*l.* "How many pennies per pound," he asked, "would the Chancellor of the Exchequer have to put on the Income-tax in order to cover this? How many years would it take before these forts had an armament which would make them of any use? And, if ever they were armed, how long would it be before their armaments were again superseded by something better?" At this business-like estimate of the cost of the fortification-folly even Lord Palmerston must have looked foolish, if it be in his nature to do so. The hon. baronet demands a full inquiry into the whole subject of our naval defences, and will shortly move for a committee on the subject.

Other members, some of them naval officers, followed up this exposure of Admiralty wrong-headedness and extravagance. But Lord Clarence Paget was ready with his official reply; but though he disposed of some of Sir John Pakington's charges, he evidently did not convince the House that our navy was in a satisfactory state. The subsequent speech of Mr. Stansfeld suggested a new vision of reconstruction. We must build our ships according to our guns, is the suggestion of the ex-Junior Lord of the Admiralty. Swift gunboats to carry each one big piece of ordnance of the longest range should be the fighting-ships of the future. By this plan, of course, those great armour-ships, which have cost the country half a million a piece, would, like the discarded line-of-battle-ships, be laid up in ordinary. Other members complained that the accounts were not understandable, and Sir H. Willoughby is of opinion that the saving in the navy estimates is not 315,000*l.*, but only 25,000*l.* However, the usual results followed. The principal votes for the navy were carried without a division.

On Friday night there was a full, interesting, and on the whole satisfactory discussion on the New Zealand question raised by Mr. Arthur Mills, in which there was, with one exception, a remarkable agreement of opinion. The deplorable Maori war is drawing to a close, and will inaugurate a change of policy which is likely effectually to prevent such conflicts in future. In prospect of having to pay the cost of their own wars, the colonists have accepted, or rather proposed to take upon themselves, the task of settling their own quarrels, without coming upon the mother-country. A new Ministry has been formed upon this basis, and the British troops are to be withdrawn. One member after another, on Friday night, expressed his satisfaction at the new arrangement, and his belief that it would tend to bring about a satisfactory arrangement between the European settlers and the natives. The lofty and philosophic mind of Mr. Roebuck is, however, not to be deluded. "He was about to attack and expose a great sham!" "They were about," he said, "to dispossess the wild animals of New Zealand, and among those wild animals the most mischievous was the wild man. (Oh, oh!)" Gathering fresh self-importance from these expressions of dissent, the hon. member proceeded to defend, on logical principles, the theory of extermination for the general good of mankind. Mr. Roebuck's idea of the human race is, that they are on a par with the animal creation. There must be constant war between the superior and inferior species, ending in the extinction of the

latter. Necessity, not God, rules the world—the moral law gives place to the manifest-destiny theory, and humanity is an old wives' fable. It would be very presumptuous to imagine that there ever could be a race superior in civilisation to that of which Mr. Roebuck is—in his own estimation at least—the most perfect specimen. But assuming, for the sake of argument, that such could be the case, then even this great statesman must accept his fate. Happily, the member for Sheffield stood alone in the advocacy of his godless theory, and succeeding speakers not only repudiated his views, but exposed his total ignorance of the history and qualities of the native race whom he, with matchless philosophic composure, consigned to perdition. It is really wonderful how a man, whose shallowness is only equalled by his pretensions, can ever be regarded as an oracle in the British House of Commons.

Monday night produced the ablest debate of the Session. The discussion in the Commons of the defences of Canada showed a marked improvement in moderation of tone as compared with the recent debate in the Lords—a result owing perhaps to the alteration which has meanwhile taken place in the respective positions of the American belligerents. Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald agrees with Mr. Forster—and Mr. Disraeli has as strong a conviction as Mr. Bright—that war with the United States in respect to Canada is not probable. But the leading members of the Opposition are at one with the leading members of the Government that we should be prepared for contingencies, the difference between them being only as to the extent of preparation that is necessary. As an answer to both, Mr. Lowe's speech was conclusive. While holding that it is the duty of this country to consider an attack upon Canada as an attack on herself, the right hon. gentleman showed how utterly futile was the plan of fortifying Quebec and Montreal.

If we had fortifications the troops would be driven into them. There was no conceivable disparity of numbers which the Americans might not bring to overwhelm them. No fortifications could be held against this force aided by modern artillery, so that if our troops were driven into the fortifications it would be impossible for them to escape. His conclusion, therefore, was, that it would be unwise to retain any force worth speaking of in Canada. Then, if we should not keep troops there in time of war, why in time of peace? We had better let Canada know the truth, and not buoy her up with false expectations, while we provoked America by a standing menace.

If this be a correct view of the case, the amount of preparation to be made in Canada is just enough to irritate without alarming her great neighbour. However, there was so cordial an expression of good feeling towards the United States on the part of the leading speakers—so earnest an expression of the wish to live on terms of perfect amity with the Transatlantic Republic—so general a repudiation of jealousy—that the action which is to be taken on the Canadian frontier will probably harm no one but ourselves. Our American cousins can afford to laugh, as did our French neighbours, at British folly; and we sincerely trust that, in the main, they will respond in spirit to Mr. Bright's closing remarks when he said:—"If the sentiment which I have heard to-night shall become the sentiment of the Parliament and the people of the United Kingdom, and if the moderation which I have described shall mark the course of the Government and people of the United States, then, notwithstanding some present irritation and some fresh distrust—and I have faith, mind, both in us and in them—I believe that these two great Commonwealths may march on abreast, parents and guardians of freedom and justice wheresoever their language shall be spoken and their power shall extend."

#### WHAT IS REST?

In one sense, to leave off work, or to be exempt from the necessity for exertion, is to rest. But so far the notion conveyed is a purely negative one. The word Rest carries to the mind far too great a weight and richness of meaning to be thus reduced to a negation. If we except rest in its lowest form, the interruption of labour, or a cessation of fatiguing toil, is not, properly speaking, rest. It is rather a circumstance which makes rest possible—an opportunity secured for rest. Rest is no more simply one and uniform in its character, than all the families and tribes of animated nature are uniform; and it is as true of this particular branch of human experience, as it is true more generally, that in man, "the world's riches, which dispersed lie, contract into a span." Rest of some kind, belongs to every province of nature and order of being, as a part of its appointed portion, and each of these forms of rest appears in its turn, in some one or other of the ever-varying moods of human

nature, or finds there its counterpart. Thus, limiting our view chiefly to the mind and the soul, we might construct in figurative terms a graduated scale of human relaxation and repose. There should stand lowest, something analogous to the sleep of the plant world in winter, where all the vital processes are in abeyance. Next above this, might be set the hibernation of animals, in whom some functions of life still go on, while others are suspended. A degree higher still, would be the hovering repose of the eagle, resting balanced and motionless in the air, while yet the eye is not closed or dim, nor any natural force abated.

But such analogies obviously do not cover the whole ground of the subject of rest. They do not even offer, by any means, a complete parallel to the facts. Without aiming for a moment at a perfect classification, we will venture to place the idea of rest before our readers in four several, and as we think, distinct points of view.

To omit for the present all reference to actual sleep, and to begin nevertheless with what does certainly amount almost to a pure negation, there are times when no kind of rest is so satisfying as complete and absolute idleness. To some states of body and of mind, nothing is or can be for the moment more grateful, and, as we may add, more salutary. After being taxed too severely and too long in every faculty, there is a certain felicity in the sense of temporary nothingness. You do not crave excitement. There seems no charm in anything amusing or beautiful. Too far gone to concern yourself greatly with any of the ordinary or extraordinary interests of life, the one necessity or the hour is to make your existence, as far as may be, a blank,—to do nothing and to care for nothing. Your mind abhors aught except a vacuum. You wish the day could be "always afternoon." This condition may not be a very dignified one, but it is inevitable, sooner or later, to those who will work too hard, either with their hands or their brains. It is their only alternative to insanity or death, just as in some diseases the one indispensable medicine is sleep. In a characteristic passage in the first series of Mendelssohn's delightful letters, he expresses himself as at last perfectly happy (after a long succession of exciting days and nights in England) in being able to lie on the grass all day under an apple-tree or an oak-tree in an Hanoverian orchard, "thinking of nothing."

Second in order to this, that is, reckoning upwards, we may rank that species of rest which is passive, without being absolutely idle. We will assume that you are much too tired to contribute wit or humour, but not too tired to enjoy it. You are just in the mood for "As You Like It," or the "Tempest." Good conversation affords you a high gratification, but you must sit in a corner unnoticed and listen. Excellent music, and perhaps any music which is tolerable, you appreciate on the same conditions. After being yourself, perhaps, for some long time, occupied in exerting sympathy or producing thought, you cannot sink all at once into a state of suspended mental animation. Yet you need rest. It must not be quite negative. After giving out, you feel irresistibly impelled to take in. For whatsoever things are beautiful or good, you feel endowed with unusual powers of absorption. You are not only capable of this kind of satisfaction, but you crave it. Leisure without this, would not be rest to you. Aimless, unamused solitude, and a mind left vacant,—so far from refreshing, annoy and irritate you. As bodily sleep is not really refreshing if the air which the sleeper breathes be deficient in oxygen, there are certain moods of mental worry and exhaustion, which are, to say the least, far more happily recruited and repaired in some mental atmospheres than in others.

Third on the ascending scale, may be set a kind of rest which is neither idle nor passive. A certain sense of power is felt, and indeed a tendency to action. To make some use of your faculty of invention or of humour, may even be one of the best parts of your holiday. Whether it be of a muscular or of an intellectual kind, you are sensible of a restlessness from which there is no remission or relief possible, except by indulging it. You are fatigued to begin with, but your fatigue springs from the prolonged exercise of one set of faculties, and you will not feel at ease till the balance is restored by a wholesome reaction. Either you have been tied to the oar of some one-idea'd labour, or some task in other ways uncongenial, and now comes the rebound. Or you were engrossed in some chosen and favourite employment; but your mind, though needing relaxation, has received a momentum which must subside gradually, and from work you turn naturally to play.

Of the latter case we have a familiar instance in the now well-known "Recreations of a Country Parson." These essays may have come latterly

to form a considerable and important element in their author's studies and toils. At first, they were no doubt what he called them, namely—recreations. If they were not so to him, similar exercises of thought (not that they are often as popular) have very often really answered the purpose of relaxation and pastime, to men of the same profession. The preaching or the studying of sermons put these "parsons" first of all thoroughly on their mettle, and called out, say from the Friday morning until Sunday night, the full strength of their imagination and their understanding. What were they to do with any spare energy which remained over,—as it were, the swell which still rose on the surface of their mind, on Monday morning? They could do nothing better than to let it sparkle and scatter its spray as it would, whether in an essay for *Fraser* or in some shape far more humble and unpretending. To require at once a repetition of severe and grave effort from the mind, would be simply to injure, or at least to offer it violence. To reduce it by main force to a state of inertia and inaction, would be equally inexpedient, and the very best way of killing everything like intellectual elasticity and vigour.

Of the case in which rest means in great measure a change from tasks which are not congenial, to those which are, the example we would quote is Charles Lamb. His tastes lay, not in the accounts and other entries which it was his official duty to attend to during the day. It was old plays and old authors generally which fascinated him, and he "loved the tall folios as if he were their father." His rest accordingly in the evening, was in those incomparable essays and letters—in which his predilections and whims flow at their own sweet will. They were none the less a relaxation to him, because it might cost other men immense labour to imitate them. As he himself said once, when his published writings were referred to in his presence, as "his works," those literary productions were "his play"; "his works" were on the shelves of the India House, in the waste-books and ledgers.

What are we to understand, on our graduated scale, by rest of the fourth and the highest order? A repose, we reply, which is neither idle, nor passive, nor intellectually productive simply. It is spiritual. We do not mean by this, anything separate or isolated, but rather the mind "moving altogether when it moves at all,"—a cessation for a time of every one-sided, partial action of the understanding and the soul. It is the happy and deep feeling of a lost equipoise regained, and harmony beginning to be restored, which the mind is conscious of, in acts of unfeigned Christian faith, and of pure devotion. Here, least of all, is the mood experienced, one of vacancy or inertia. With far greater truth it may be said, that it is only towards God, and in relation to God through Christ, that our nature finds, or can find, a scope which is adequate to its powers as a whole, or the opportunity for anything approaching to a full proportioned harmony, either with itself or the surrounding universe. It is not more certain that every atom on the face of the earth gravitates towards the earth's centre, than it is that the soul of man yearns with an inextinguishable sense of insufficiency and incompleteness, till, from every absence and oscillation, it returns to the living personal centre of its being and its life—the Father of Spirits. We are not passive in this act, nor is He. It is to the mightiest of His gifts, "not spared," and long since bestowed, that we owe the very possibility of purification and pardon. But it is He, too, who when our spirit thirsts for new supplies of strength and consolation—it is He, who, by His spirit, meeting, aiding, filling ours, restores the lost balance, out of discord fetches harmony, and fills our whole nature through and through, with pure and perfect rest. No wonder if the associations which the word acquires in this best and highest use, endow it with a grand weight and wealth of meaning. The same great composer from whom we borrowed a half-playful remark, to illustrate rest in its lowest form, has indissolubly connected his name with words which express its very highest. Into innumerable minds the powerful and exquisite music of the "Elijah" of Mendelssohn has carried a degree or two deeper, the simple yet ever profound and inexhaustible thought, of "REST IN THE LORD."

A Working Men's Industrial Exhibition is to be held in Birmingham.

In the course of Wednesday's debate on the purity of rivers, Sir George Bowyer told the House he had heard that during Mr. Bright's holiday sojourn in the Highlands the hon. gentleman had attempted to catch a salmon, but had tumbled into the water, and instead of his catching the salmon the salmon was very nearly catching him. (Laughter.)

## Parliamentary Proceedings.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, the LORD CHANCELLOR brought in a bill to abolish what remained of imprisonment for debt. It proposed that imprisonment for debt should absolutely cease, but that no discharge of a bankrupt should be of avail to relieve his future property unless he paid 5s. in the pound or five-sixths in amount of his creditors signed an agreement to relieve it. The bill was read a first time.

The Game Licenses (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The following peers were appointed a committee to inquire into the Edmunds affair:—The Lord President (Earl Granville), the Duke of Somerset, the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Montrose, the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl of Donoughmore, the Earl of Dalhousie, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Taunton, and Lord Chelmsford.

In reply to the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl RUSSELL was understood to say that the latest news from the River Plate stated that a fleet of Brazilian men-of-war had appeared before Montevideo. The English and French admirals would do their best to prevent a bombardment, and orders had been given to the admiral to protect British life and property.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to six.

On Friday, the LORD CHANCELLOR laid on the table the report of the commission of inquiry and other papers in the Edmunds case. They were ordered to be printed exclusively for the use of the members of the committee appointed by their Lordships.

## ATTORNEYS AND SOLICITORS.

On the motion for the second reading of the Attorneys' and Solicitors' Remuneration Bill, Lord ST. LEONARDS opposed it as being contrary to the principle of the English law regulating costs between attorneys and clients. To allow attorneys to take securities for future costs would have the effect of prolonging litigation. The bill struck at the root of the taxing-master system. He contended it would lead to numerous abuses, and instanced the Swinfen case as proof of this. The LORD CHANCELLOR said the present system led attorneys to spin out proceedings and increase costs. This bill would enable a client to know what he would have to pay. Lord CHELMSFORD wholly disapproved of the principle of the bill. It would open the avenues to injustice and oppression by attorneys over clients. Lord CRANWORTH, on the other hand, approved of the principle of the bill, but believed it would require alteration as to its details in committee. On a division the bill was rejected by 23 votes to 21.

The House adjourned at ten minutes past seven o'clock.

On Monday, Earl STANHOPE postponed his motion respecting the British Museum until the Government measure on the subject had come before Parliament.

The Earl of CLARENDON brought in the Public Schools Bill, the object of which is to give effect to some of the recommendations of the Public Schools Commissioners. The bill was read a first time, and that day fortnight was fixed for the second reading.

The Duke of ARGYLL moved the second reading of the British Kaffraria Bill. After some remarks in approval of the measure from Lord Lyveden and Lord Taunton, the bill was read a second time.

The LORD CHANCELLOR withdrew his bill for the Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt, in order that some amendments might be made in it.

On the motion of the Marquis of CLANRICARDE the Election Petitions Act (1848) Amendment Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to six o'clock.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE PROTECTION OF RIVERS.

On Wednesday, Lord R. MONTAGU moved the second reading of the River Waters Protection Bill. He wished the bill to be sent to a select committee, that it might be fully examined. He pointed out at considerable length the manner in which many of the rivers and streams of this country are poisoned by the sewage of towns and the refuse of manufactories being poured into them. This killed the fish and prevented the water from being fit for drinking purposes. The beds of the rivers had, in many cases, been raised by the rubbish thrown into them. In London we were drinking the sewage of 500,000 people, and there was no way of preventing this except by turning the sewage on to the land. Filtration and deodorisation were out of the question. They had been tried and failed. When the sewage was thrown on the land, however, it was effectually filtered and deodorised, and it was the evidence of all competent witnesses that this could be done without injury to the health of the people. Moreover, when thrown upon the land it increased its fertility very largely, and, indeed, upon the application of sewage as a manure rested the continued productiveness of the land. Taking the value of the sewage at the lowest point at which it had been placed by Messrs. Napier and Hope—namely, 6s. per head of the people—it represented a sum which might be taken at twenty millions a year, now completely wasted. The bill proposed to give powers to deal with the pollution of rivers to watershed boards, which should have jurisdiction over the whole of the areas which they represented, and they would have powers to raise money for the purposes of the act similar

to those now possessed by the Metropolitan Board of Works. He moved the second reading of the bill.

Sir G. GREY did not believe that the evils now existing from the pouring of the sewage into the rivers were so great as had been represented; but he believed that when the country was convinced of the value of sewage as a manure there would be much less difficulty in dealing with the question than existed at present. He objected to the bill because it placed an almost unlimited power in the hands of inspectors, and gave the most extensive and important powers to the protection boards. He believed it would involve almost every district in large expense. He hoped the bill would not be pressed to a second reading.

Mr. KENDALL opposed the bill, and instance a case in Cornwall where, if it were passed, it would put a stop to the working of three mines, the profits of which were 100,000*l.* a year.

Mr. JACKSON moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. Mr. BRIGHT seconded the amendment. If the bill were to pass in its present shape it would throw thousands of persons out of employment. He denied that the fish in the rivers were materially interfered with by the pollution of the streams.

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which various members concurred in suggesting that this measure should not be pressed, though some legislation upon the subject was imperatively required.

Ultimately Lord R. MONTAGU, in his reply, said, under the advice tendered to him he would withdraw the bill.

Lord R. MONTAGU then moved the second reading of the Sewage Utilisation Bill. Sir G. GREY said he entirely concurred in the principle of this bill. After a few remarks by Mr. F. POWELL, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The Affirmations (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

The Private Bill Costs Bill passed the committee on recommital.

The Prisons Bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

Mr. HUNT moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the registration of county voters, explaining the alterations he proposed to make in relation to objections to voters, and a few other points. Mr. Herbert, Mr. Dodson, and Mr. Collins made a few remarks, and leave was given.

Mr. LONGFIELD obtained leave to bring in a bill to provide for the security of the property of married women separated from their husbands in Ireland; and leave was also obtained to bring in a bill to confirm a Provisional Order under the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862, relating to the burgh of Perth.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to six o'clock.

## THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

On Thursday, Lord H. LENNOX gave notice that if the motion for the extension of the British Museum were carried he should move that the management of the institution should be entrusted to a Minister of the House.

## BRAZIL.

In answer to Mr. White, Lord PALMERSTON said it was not intended to repeal the statute known as the "Aberdeen Act," as the result would be an unlimited revival of the slave-trade with Brazil. He was happy to say that negotiations were going on, through the intervention of Portugal, for the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Brazil.

## PENSIONS BY THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In answer to Mr. D. Griffiths, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that he was not aware that the House of Lords claimed a right to grant pensions to their officers. The House of Lords voted what was necessary for its expenses out of a fund called the fee-fund. Some specific charges were voted in the estimates, and when the fee-fund was not sufficient application was made to the Treasury, and a vote was taken in the estimates without inquiry as to the manner in which it was to be expended.

## ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

Replying to Lord R. Cecil, Mr. LAYARD said no communication had been received during the last six months from the American Government claiming compensation for losses sustained through the operations of the Confederate cruisers.

In reply to Mr. Bright, Mr. LAYARD said the Government had numerous claims upon the United States in consequence of transactions during the war, and those claims were being forwarded.

## THE BRITISH NAVY.

The House then went into committee of supply on the navy estimates.

Sir M. PETO resumed the debate on the vote for 69,750 men. He complained that the accounts were yet incomplete, and condemned the general arrangements of the dockyards. As to the navy, he did not believe Sir J. Pakington had in the least overstated its bad condition. It was impossible to produce good vessels from merely covering wooden frames with armour plates. The Royal Alfred was only fit to be broken up. He regarded the appointment of Mr. Reed as a great misfortune, and it made him doubt the administrative ability of the Duke of Somerset. He thought Captain Coles's system had not received sufficient trial. Captain Sherard Osborn's report on that system was most favourable, and showed that the Royal Sovereign was the most effective ship in the navy. The recent attack on Fort Fisher had shown the importance of turret vessels. Briefly alluding to the question of forts, he showed that to make those now in course of erection complete, and

to fit them with an armament efficient against iron-clad ships, would cost 17,624,304*l.* This was a matter for the consideration of the Government. He commented unfavourably upon the manner in which the Admiralty treated inventors, and concluded by expressing an opinion that the Admiralty required to be remodelled. He should support a committee of inquiry into the subject.

Admiral WALCOTT deprecated the reduction in the number of men and the small vote which it was proposed to take for the construction of docks.

Sir J. HAY, while thanking the Government for the increase of pay to the officers, complained that they were not fairly treated. He highly eulogised Captain Coles's system. In case of war, he said, the British admiral in the Mediterranean would be powerless against the eighteen ironclads which the Italians now possessed. Our West African squadron was useless for its purpose; and the North American and West Indian fleet, not having a single ironclad, could not blockade an American port for a day. It was time the House took steps to put the country in a proper state of defence.

Lord C. PAGET complained that Sir J. Pakington and other members went about picking up gossip as to ships, and then assumed that all they heard was true. He had been challenged to produce Admiral Dacres' report. He would tell the House both what Admiral Dacres and Admiral Smart said. The latter said that the stability of the iron-clad fleet was great, and that the Resistance was the fastest ship under sail. Admiral Dacres, who had under his command the Warrior, Black Prince, Defence, Resistance, Royal Oak, Prince Consort, Research, and Enterprise, said that for long voyages, where a rapid passage was desirable, these ships were unrivalled, but their great length made them unhandy, and it was a risk to take them into such harbours as Cork and Lisbon. He did not think highly of their qualities in a gale. The Hector was the worst of the large class of armour-plated ships. The Royal Oak was a superior ship, but like all completely iron-clad ships did not make good weather in the open sea. Admiral Dacres said the Research was overweighted, but it was utterly untrue that officers and men had refused to go to sea in her. She was, however, a better sea boat than the Enterprise. Both were calculated to fight better than the old ships, which was the object Mr. Reed had had in view. He alluded further to the Royal Alfred and the Royal Albert, and denied that the Admiralty had shown reluctance in giving the system of Captain Coles a trial. He also denied that the Royal Sovereign had been paid off. They were most anxious to have the turret principle fairly tested. He defended Mr. Reed, and said that gentleman had shown great ability in the discharge of his duties.

Sir F. SMITH asked if the Government intended to do anything for the defence of the Lakes. Colonel SYKES showed that the French navy cost little more than half the sum voted for ours. He complained of the money thrown away upon fortifications. Mr. LAIRD urged the further extension of dock accommodation. He contended that cupola ships could easily be made sea-going craft. The building of wooden ships he condemned, and praised the Achilles, which had been constructed by Mr. Reed. Sir H. WILLOUGHBY insisted that, though there was an apparent reduction of 316,000*l.* in the estimates, the real reduction was only about 25,000*l.* Mr. BUNTING deprecated any reduction being made in the navy.

Mr. STANSFIELD contended that the reductions which were being made in the estimates would not in the least tend to lessen the efficiency of the navy. At considerable length he indicated the manner in which the navy should be reconstructed. They ought to begin with the gun first, and the ship afterwards. Ships which could bear rough weather, and possessing great speed, combined with ability to carry heavy guns, where what was wanted. He did not in the least believe that the country was in such a defenceless state as had been described. Before the end of the session he hoped to hear that the Admiralty were about to build vessels such as he had indicated.

Mr. CHILDERS, at some length, gave explanations on different points, chiefly relating to accounts, and said these would in a short time be as nearly as possible perfect.

Sir J. PAKINGTON contended that the explanations of Lord C. Paget were not satisfactory, and demanded that Admiral Dacres' report should be laid on the table entire.

The vote for men and boys was agreed to. Votes for 2,945,000*l.* for wages, and 1,325,694*l.* were also agreed to.

The Affirmations (Scotland) Bill passed through committee.

Mr. HOLLAND obtained leave to bring in a bill to further regulate the use of locomotives on turnpike and other roads for agricultural and other purposes.

METROPOLIS SEWAGE AND ESSEX RECLAMATION BILL.

Mr. AYRTON moved that the following gentlemen form the select committee on this bill:—Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Baring, Mr. Knight, Dr. Brady, and Mr. T. J. Miller. Agreed to.

## UNION OF BENEFICES ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. BOUVERIE moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Union of Benefices Act. The object of the bill was to do away with the consent of the archdeacon, as at present required by the act, in certain cases. There would be ample security by having the consent of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the bishop of the diocese, and the Secretary of State, without requiring the archdeacon's consent.

Mr. HUBBARD thought there ought to be more information before this bill was brought in, and with a view to obtain that he begged to move, as an amend-

ment, that before leave be given to bring in the bill all correspondence on the subject be laid upon the table of the House.

After some discussion, the House divided on the motion for leave to bring in the bill, when there were twenty-one ayes and eleven noes. As forty members were not present, the House stood adjourned at twenty-six minutes past one o'clock.

#### THE PATENT LAWS.

On Friday, in reply to Mr. Hibbert, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it was intended to bring in a bill founded on some of the recommendations of the Committee on Patents.

#### COUNTY REGISTRATION.

In answer to Mr. Western, Mr. T. G. BARING said that as the member for Northamptonshire had introduced a measure to amend the system of county registration, the Government did not propose to introduce one on the same subject.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Mr. G. DUFF asked the First Commissioner of Works whether he had had under his consideration the letter from the Senate of the University of London, dated November 10, 1864, on the subject of a building for the University; and whether he proposed to take any, and, if so, what steps, with a view to meet the wishes of that body, as explained in the specification which had been laid before him. Mr. COWPER had received a communication from the Senate of the University, stating in detail the accommodation they considered necessary for the proper transaction of the business of the University. It was, however, a matter involving several important questions, and was still under the consideration of the Government, no decision having yet been come to.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. A. MILLS called attention to the affairs of New Zealand. He was glad that a new Ministry with a new policy had been installed in that country, and that five regiments were under recall. He heartily approved of the principle of leaving to the colonists the entire charge of the colony, and he believed that while they would be found equal to dealing with the natives they would be no less humane than would the Government of this country. He wished to hear from the Colonial Secretary a statement as to the exact position of New Zealand in respect to the military change.

Mr. ROEBUCK argued that colonisation by Great Britain meant, and properly meant, not merely conquest but dispossession of the aborigines. The conduct of the first settlers of New Zealand was wise and patriotic. It was the subjugation of the country, the dispossession of the wild animals, the most mischievous of which was the wild man. Substituting for the barbarity of the aborigines the civilisation of England was doing good in the face of nature and of man. When the aborigines disappeared there would be peace in the country. He blamed the Government for not following the policy thus indicated. There were men in this country who were turning up their eyes, and putting their palms together, and appearing to pray; but they would sell anything to the aborigines of New Zealand. They would sell the arms by which our countrymen were shot down. He deprecated all such proceedings, and declared that his plan of putting down the natives, though it might appear harsh, would be the most humane in the end.

Mr. BUXTON approved of the policy which had now been adopted as to New Zealand. He utterly denied that the conduct of the natives would justify measures of such sweeping severity as had been proposed by some of the colonists. If our army was withdrawn, the colonists would be compelled to treat the natives more fairly. Mr. ADDERLEY condemned the tone of Mr. Roebuck, and approved of the policy which had now been adopted, in placing on the Colonial Government the duty of self-defence. Mr. MARSH argued that affairs in New Zealand were just now in a critical position, and deprecated discussion on the subject. He defended the colonists from charges of having behaved cruelly to the natives. Mr. CAVE utterly disapproved of the policy indicated by Mr. Roebuck. He thought the interference of the Home Government in New Zealand had been injurious, and approved of the present arrangement. Lord A. CHURCHILL hoped that the future policy of the local Government would be to endeavour to raise the natives by giving them a share in the government.

Lord STANLEY said the invariable result of the coming together of civilised and barbarian races was the decay of the latter. He thought that the policy now to be pursued should be to satisfy themselves that all the colonists could do on their behalf was being done; they should continue such temporary help as they needed, but should see that it was kept down to the lowest possible point; and they should give the colonists warning that help would not be given them after the termination of the present war. He hoped they would not give the Governor an y power independent of the control of his responsible advisers.

Lord R. CECIL rather thought they should put some check on the colonists to prevent the native rights from suffering harm. Mr. W. E. FORSTER approved of the policy of leaving the colonists to take care of their own interests. Mr. KINNAIRD defended the Maories, and condemned the speech of Mr. Roebuck.

Mr. CARDWELL said the general tone of the debate would do good. He strongly condemned Mr. Roebuck's speech, and in reference to what had been said by Lord Stanley as to the decay of the aborigines, showed that it did not apply to the

Maories. They were brave, and their leaders behaved like gentlemen. The Colonial Government had entered fully into the spirit of the instructions from home. They had not yet accepted the guaranteed loan, and it was too early yet to say what definite arrangements would be made on the subject. The rebellion was not altogether crushed, but was dying out, and it might be safely left to the colonists, who would be prepared for self-government by being left to establish friendly relations with the natives. He approved of the policy inaugurated by Mr. Weld and his colleagues.

In reply to Mr. Augustus Smith, Mr. TIRZ said the Westminster Improvement Commissioners had not done much in the way of providing dwellings for the labouring classes because they had not been fortunate.

The House went into committee of supply *pro forma*, and resumed.

The Game (Ireland) Bill was read a second time by fifty votes to eight.

Mr. LOCKE moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws as to theatres and other places of amusement, chiefly with regard to the means of egress in case of fire. Mr. T. F. BARING said the matter had received the attention of the Lord Chamberlain. Leave was given to bring in the bill.

The Marine Mutiny Bill was brought in and read a first time.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past nine o'clock.

#### THE BUDGET.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. White, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that in all probability he should make his financial statement on Thursday, the 27th April.

#### CASE OF MARY RYAN.

In reply to Mr. Scully, Sir G. GREY said the law was clear that it was illegal to remove lunatics by force from this country. Mary Ryan had been illegally removed, but it was not thought judicious to require her to be brought back. The law officers had reported that it was not advisable to institute a prosecution against those who had removed her.

#### AMERICAN MATTERS.

In reply to Mr. Peacocke, Mr. LAYARD said he believed Captain Beale had not been surrendered by the Canadian Government to the United States, but that he was arrested in New York State.

In reply to Lord R. Cecil, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it would be a very exceptional case in which the Government would be justified in interfering, under the Extradition Treaty with the United States, with the course of law in Canada.

#### THE DEFENCES OF CANADA.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. S. FITZGERALD called attention to the report of Colonel Jervois on the defences of Canada, and asked the Government for information respecting it. He did not believe that the discussion of this matter would affect the friendly relations between this country and America. At any rate he had no wish that such a result should follow. He did not regard the abrogation of the convention as to the Lakes or the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty as marks of hostility. He thought the Government ought to have agreed to the American proposal for a temporary increase of the armed force on the Lakes, in order to put down raiders. If that had been done the Reciprocity Treaty would not have been terminated. He thought the late communications from the American Government to this country were marked with more conciliation than formerly. This was no doubt owing to the conduct of the American Minister in this country, who had done more than any other man to maintain the peace of the two countries. He did not believe the Government or people of the United States would desire war with this country when the present war was over, but an accident or the hasty act of an official might precipitate hostilities; against such an event it was well to be prepared. Again, Mr. Seward had stated that in the recent peace negotiations the Confederates had suggested that the two parties should agree on some extrinsic scheme of policy for a season during which their own differences might be healed. No word of disapprobation of such policy had been expressed by the President in communicating it to Congress. The Confederates said the proposal had come from the Federals; but all he wished to point out was that the proposition had been made, and that Canada had been pointed out as the object of attack. The report of Colonel Jervois concluded by asking whether Canada should be abandoned or defended, as he proposed. He contended that it would be disgraceful to abandon Canada, and he urged that the fortification works should be pushed on with more rapidity than was proposed by the Government. He referred at some length to the recommendations of the report, and contended that nothing should be trusted to the chapter of accidents. He had received a letter from New York, dated Feb. 26, which assured him that the American Government was actively but quietly preparing for a conflict with England, and that a portion of a large fleet to be employed on the Lakes was in process of construction. He concluded by urging that we should put forth all the power we possessed to place Canada in a position of defence.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER commended the tone in which Mr. Fitzgerald had spoken, but he was afraid that what the hon. gentleman proposed would be enormous and costly. He wished to know what proportion of the cost would be borne by Canada, which was daily becoming more of our ally than our offspring. But he did not believe there was any ground for the fear that the contending sections in America meditated war with this country through Canada. Yet such a fear

kept down the funds, and was fostered by men of great eminence in this country. He specially condemned the tone in which Lord Derby had spoken of the matter. They had a right to demand the fullest explanation from the Government in respect to the matter. They had had experience of the evil effects of previous groundless panics, and the country ought to be made fully acquainted with everything that could throw light on this question. He condemned the tone which the *Times* had taken, and pointed out that the American Minister and the American Government had shown every disposition to keep on the most friendly relations with Great Britain. It was said claims would be made on this country for compensation for the depredations of the Alabama. On that point he wanted full information from the Government. He did not think that such claims could, with justice, be enforced. Claims had been made by this country on America, but he did not suppose that we should go to war to enforce them. He ascribed the fears which were expressed to the influence of Confederate agents and Southern sympathisers, and the disappointed prophets. These people declared that the Federal professions were not to be trusted, while every act of that country showed its honesty of intention. The declaration of Earl Russell that the North was fighting for empire had helped to increase the fears. He believed the charge was unfounded. The North was simply fighting to prevent the destruction of the country. As for Canada, her best defence would be a continuation of the practice of neutrality and the prevention of raids on her neighbours. He believed that when the present war was over, all differences with England would be forgotten in the prosperity which would ensue.

Mr. CARDWELL could give the most distinct assurance that our relations with the United States continued of the most friendly character. There were no papers in reference to the Alabama varying the principles laid down in those already before the House. He commended the tone of Mr. Fitzgerald's speech, which contrasted favourably with that of some other persons. In regard to the Lakes Convention, the Government had made proposals as to the number of vessels and other matters, with a view to a new treaty being entered into, and when notice should be given as to the Reciprocity Treaty, no time would be lost in entering into negotiations respecting it. He cordially endorsed all that had been said in praise of the American Minister here. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to sketch what had been done by the Government to induce the Canadians to put their country into a condition of defence. The latest result was the report of Colonel Jervois. The Home Government had undertaken to provide defences for Quebec; the colony would do the same for Montreal. The Government would provide the armaments for both places, two-fifths of the expense being borne by the mother country, and three-fifths by the colony. Fifty thousand pounds were as much of the total expense of 200,000*l.* as would be required in the first year. He pointed out what was being done as to the defences of other parts of Canada, but declined to say what would be done about gunboats. Canada had shown herself desirous to provide for her own defence, and she would be assisted by the mother country. He trusted that in these discussions nothing would be introduced which could tend to irritate the people of America.

Mr. DISRAELI, after paying a tribute to the manner in which the Federal Government had conducted their relations with this country under circumstances of great difficulty, avowed his opinion that we were in no immediate danger of coming into collision with that Government, because he believed that the people of the United States were a sagacious people, and were not likely to engage in another struggle with a foreign Power. There were other reasons (which he explained) that induced him to adopt this opinion. There were elements in operation which would hereafter work an alteration in the United States, and our North American colonies would become a powerful federation. He urged that our relations with those dependencies demanded serious consideration. To abandon them would be a disastrous and fatal step. Then, what should be our course? To place them in a state of proper defence. He referred to the inconsistent conduct of the Government in this matter. He did not, he said, blame them for being inconsistent, but he lamented the consequence of discordant opinions—that the colonies had not been defended.

Mr. LOWE said he should confine himself to the simple question, what this country ought to do and was bound to do. Suppose we were actually at war with the United States, Colonel Jervois stated that our troops would be obliged to flee to their ships, and therefore we should make fortifications. But if we had fortifications the troops would be driven into them. There was no conceivable disparity of numbers which the Americans might not bring to overwhelm them. No fortifications could be held against this force, aided by modern artillery, so that if our troops were driven into the fortifications it would be impossible for them to escape. The question was, what should be done if Canada was the battle-ground in case of war. The most effectual course in such an event would be to concentrate a force upon some other point. His conclusion, therefore, was that it would be unwise to retain any force worth speaking of in Canada. Then, if we should not keep troops there in time of war, why in time of peace? We had better let Canada know the truth, and not buoy her up with false expectations, while we provoked America by a standing menace. The wisest course would be at once to withdraw our troops.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE said the British North American colonies being desirous to remain attached to

England, and being able and willing to exert themselves in their own defence, her Majesty's Government deemed it their duty to make propositions to the House to enable them to perform their part in assisting in the defence. He combated the arguments and conclusion of Mr. Lowe.

Mr. WATKIN observed that the way to prevent a war with America was not to talk of abandoning Canada, but to declare that it was a part of the British empire, and that we were prepared to defend it. Sir M. FARQUHAR dwelt upon the importance of the North American colonies to England, and the large amount of capital there in which British subjects were more or less interested. Lord ELCHO said, having listened to the debate, the impression upon his mind was that the speech which contained most practical sense and hit the right nail on the head was that of Mr. Lowe, that the course he suggested was a practical and sensible one. Mr. AYTON complained of the entire want of information upon a variety of essential points, which ought to be brought clearly before the House, and without which it would be premature to form any judgment. The best way to protect Canada, he remarked, was to preserve proper relations with the United States, instead of which causes of irritation had arisen.

Lord R. CECIL observed that the ambiguity about the defence of Canada was more dangerous to the honour of England than any other course that could be adopted.

Mr. BRIGHT said the question was at once important and delicate. The difficulty was that we had an extensive colony lying adjacent to the United States, and, if there be a war party in the States, that circumstance afforded a strong temptation to enter into a war with England. It was perfectly well known that there was no power whatever in the United Kingdom to defend successfully Canada against the United States. Would Canada attack the States? Certainly not. Would the States attack Canada? He believed clearly not, with a view to its forcible annexation to the Union. No person in England was for going to war with the United States. Was the United States for war with this country? The relations between the two countries had for some time been growing more and more amicable. Then if Canada was not for war, nor England, nor the United States, whence was it to come? He suggested that there might be some anxiety in this country, some prick of conscience about the manner in which the American Government had been treated, and he referred to various transactions calculated, in his opinion, to create irritation and exasperation in the United States. What, he asked, would the people of this country have said if they had suffered as the people of America had suffered from the Alabama? It might be said that these things would tend to provoke a desire for vengeance and increase the chances of war. This was, he said, to the last degree improbable. There were millions of men in Lancashire who had had no kind of sympathy with the views he condemned, and there were securities for peace in America itself. He believed there was a war party in the United States—the Irish party, but this was the only war party, and the real power in the States was with another class. The root of all these unfortunate circumstances was, he said, a feeling of jealousy entertained in this country towards the American nation—a feeling which would not overthrow the decrees of nature.

Lord PALMERSTON denied that there existed in this country a jealousy of America. No doubt, during the contest now going on in that country, there was a feeling of irritation in both North and South that this country, a third party, had not espoused their cause; but he believed that among the great bulk of the people of the United States there was a good feeling towards this country, and that when the present contest was over that natural feeling would prevail over any temporary irritation. But this was no reason why we should not place our colonies in America in a state of defence. He could not agree with Mr. Lowe, and it was not the intention of the Government to follow his advice and withdraw our troops from Canada. (Cheers.) No doubt there were those who had endeavoured to persuade the people of the United States that there existed in this country a spirit of hostility towards them, and that we were looking out for grounds of quarrel. There could, however, be no real and just grounds for quarrel between them.

We certainly shall not seek such grounds, nor shall we invent them; and if the speech of the hon. gentleman who has just sat down be a true and faithful exposition of the sentiments of the people of the United States, there can be no well-founded apprehension that the peace happily prevailing between us is in danger of interruption. I can confirm the statement of my right hon. friend, that the present relations between the two Governments are perfectly friendly and satisfactory. (Cheers.) We have no complaint to make of the Government of the United States—(Hear, hear)—they have acted in a fair and honourable manner in all the matters that may have arisen between us. No doubt there are claims which they have put forward, not urging them at present, but laying the ground for their discussion at some future time. No doubt, also, we have claims upon them which we do not put forward at present, but have announced to be claims which at some future time may be discussed. But I should trust that we both feel it to be for the interest—aye, and for the honour—of the two countries, that peace should be preserved, and that matters of this sort ought to be capable of a friendly and amicable adjustment. (Cheers.) All I can say is that the Government, as long as they continue to be chargeable with the conduct of affairs, will do everything that the honour and interests of the

country permit them to do to maintain inviolate the relations of peace and friendship between the two countries. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. HENNESSY put a question to Mr. Newdegate with reference to a matter growing out of his correspondence with Dr. Ullathorne, to which Mr. NEWDEGATE gave a detailed reply.

Some remarks were made by The O'DONOGHUE, and the House then went into Committee of Supply *pro forma*, and afterwards into a Committee of Ways and Means, when a resolution granting supply was agreed to.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and after some further business the House adjourned at half-past twelve o'clock.

### Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Prince of Wales on Wednesday morning held the first *levée* of the season, on behalf of her Majesty the Queen, in the reception-room of St. James's Palace. The arrangements which had been made for persons who have the right of *entrée*, and for those presented for the first time, were better than they were last year, and there was therefore none of that crowding and confusion which, in former *levées* held by his Royal Highness, has been so grievously complained of. Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, introduced most of the newly-elected county sheriffs, and many gentlemen who have been appointed to Governmental and diplomatic posts during the past year were also presented.

Friday was the anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. A grand ball was given at Marlborough House.

It is officially intimated that the Prince of Wales will open the International Exhibition in Dublin on the 9th May.

It is stated that the Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to open the main drainage works of London on the 4th of April.

The following gentlemen have been selected to accompany the Right Hon. William Hutt and Mr. Somerset Beaumont on their special mission to Vienna:—Mr. Greville Morier, of the Foreign Office; Mr. W. W. Emerson Tennent, of the Board of Trade, private secretary to Mr. Hutt; and Mr. Carmichael, of the Admiralty.

Mr. Cobden is again confined to his residence by his old malady in his throat.

The Viceroy of Egypt intends to visit England in the course of the ensuing summer.

On Sunday, the Rev. Charles Kingsley preached before the Queen and Royal family at Windsor, and afterwards dined with her Majesty.

On Monday, her Majesty went to Stafford House, and visited the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland; and afterwards visited the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Marlborough House.

The Queen held a Court on Monday, at Buckingham Palace. It was numerously attended by the nobility and gentry.

### Miscellaneous News.

**THE YELVERTON CASE.**—On Friday the Court of Session gave judgment on the application of Mrs. Longworth Yelverton to refer the whole cause to the oath of Major Yelverton. The court refused to grant the petition—neither would they consent to cite Mrs. Forbes Yelverton. Lord Deas dissented from the judgment of the majority. The *Scotsman* says that it is understood that Miss Longworth intends to appeal against the decision of the Scotch Court of Session, so that the case may again come before the House of Lords.

**DIVISION ON THE MALT-TAX.**—The division list on Sir Fitzroy Kelly's motion showed that nearly all the members of the last Derby Ministry now in the House voted for the abolition of the tax. The names of Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Stanley, and Mr. Walpole do not appear. The Liberals who supported the motion were—Mr. Adeane, Major Anson, Mr. Bass, Sir E. Dering, Mr. Dodson, Sir C. Douglas, Mr. W. Forster, Mr. Gurdon, Colonel Packe, Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, Mr. W. Portman, Mr. R. G. Price, Mr. H. Russell, and Alderman Sidney. Thirty-six Conservative members—fifteen of whom sit for counties, including Mr. Disraeli—voted against the resolution. Mr. Cobden was absent, but Mr. Bright voted against the resolution.

**THE PATENT OFFICE SCANDAL—FURTHER REVELATIONS.**—The first question in order of time to which, by the express desire of Lord Derby, the House is directed to give its attention, involves the circumstances under which the original appointment of Mr. Edmunds to the Clerkship of Patents was made. That appointment dates as far back as 1833, during the Chancellorship of Lord Brougham. The value of the clerkship is only 400*l.* a-year. We speak of facts not yet in evidence, but of the truth of which we have no doubt, when we state that three-fourths of that salary—in other words 300*l.* a-year—have been from that time to the present paid over, under the direction of Mr. William Brougham, the brother of Lord Brougham, and late Master in Chancery—100*l.* to Mr. William Brougham himself, and 200*l.* to keep down the interest of a mortgage of 5,000*l.* on the landed property of Lord Brougham. These facts cannot, we believe, be disputed. What was the precise nature of the transaction out of which they arose: whether the office was procured by the surrender of so large a portion of its emoluments; if so, whether Lord Brougham was a party

to the transaction, or whether some member of his family concluded the bargain on his own account; if not, what could have been the inducement to give up so large a portion of the income of an office involving so much labour and responsibility; these are questions on which we may expect to receive a clear and unambiguous deliverance from the committee of the House of Lords. We hope also to learn from this high authority whether this system—by which the profits of public offices are appropriated, not to remunerate those who discharge their duties, but in some way or other for the benefit of the persons or the friends of the persons by whom they are conferred—is one that is consistent with the lowest views of public morality or the lowest standard of official propriety.—*Times*.

**GREAT BANK FAILURE AT BIRMINGHAM.**—We regret to have to announce the suspension of another bank, with liabilities stated to amount to about a million sterling. After having been in an unsatisfactory state for a long period, Messrs. Attwells, Spooner, Marshall, and Co., of Birmingham, on Friday night publicly made known their inability to meet their engagements, and closed their bank. In the circular issued by the firm, the cause of failure is stated to be the withdrawal from the bank of large sums of money by the Attwells some years since. At present Mr. Henry Marshall is the sole surviving partner of the firm. The liabilities consist of 700,000*l.* deposits, and 300,000*l.* customers' balances. The assets of the bank are, however, very considerable, consisting in great part of real estates, which, it is said, are but slightly encumbered. On Saturday the stoppage caused intense excitement in Birmingham, and depositors, who number altogether probably 2,500, flocked into the town in large parties from the surrounding districts. Most contradictory statements are in circulation respecting the probable assets of the suspended firm of Messrs. Attwells and Co., of Birmingham. According to some they will reach 14*s.* in the pound; according to others they will not exceed 5*s.* Nothing is likely to be known of a reliable character on this subject until the creditors' meeting on Thursday. It is reported that litigation is not unlikely to be one of the results of this most unexpected occurrence.

### Gleanings.

The public paid in duty last year, on tobacco, 6,109,759*l.*; and on spirits, 20,496,100*l.*

Dean Garnier, of Winchester, has just entered his ninetieth year. He still takes a prominent part in the services at Winchester Cathedral.

Reports of perils, detention, &c., from snow-storms come from Scotland and Wales.

A silver cradle is to be presented to the Mayoreess of Liverpool on the occasion of her giving birth to a daughter during the Mayoralty.

Moral reflection by a policeman:—"It seems to me that with many young men the most approved method of winding up the night is reeling home."

A certain barrister who was remarkable for coming into court with dirty hands, observed, "that he had been turning over Coke." "I should have thought you had been turning over coals," remarked a wag.

An Irishman called into a store and priced a pair of gloves. He was told they came to ten shillings. "Och, by my soul, thin," says he, "I'd sooner my hands go barefoot, than pay that price for 'em."

It is said that in M.'s back parlour one day lately, Dean M. said to Lord D. that he was surprised to find that Lord S. had not yet read his father's translation of the "Iliad." "No, nor ever will," said the noble translator, "until it is put into prose in the form of a Blue-book."—*Court Journal*.

**"STARVE A FEVER."**—That was the old maxim. Dr. Graves, to whom medicine is much indebted for the introduction of a rational dietary in the treatment of fevers, when going round his convalescent ward one morning, and expatiating on the healthy appearance of some who had recovered from severe typhus, remarked to the students who accompanied him that it was all the effect of good feeding; "And lest," said he, "when I am gone, you may be at a loss for an epitaph for me, let me give you one in three words—"He fed fevers."

**COURT ENGLISH.**—The *Owl* says the following are the exact words of the circular addressed by the Master of the Ceremonies to the various Ambassadors and Ministers accredited to the Court of St. James, to inform them of her Majesty's intention of receiving them, with their wives, at Buckingham Palace. At a similar court, held last year, only gentlemen were admitted:—"Lieut.-General Sir Edward Cust presents his compliments to —, and has the honour to apprise him that her Majesty the Queen will be happy to receive the respects of the diplomatic body, male and female, at Buckingham Palace, Tuesday, 28th inst."

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—**ENFEELED EXISTENCE.**—This medicine embraces every attribute required in a general and domestic remedy; it overturns the foundations of disease laid by indigestible food and impure air. In obstructions or congestions of the liver, lungs, bowels, or any other organ, these Pills are especially serviceable and eminently successful. They should be kept in every family, as they are a medicine without a fault for young persons and those of feeble constitutions; they never cause pain or irritate the most sensitive nerves or most tender bowels. Holloway's Pills are the best known purifiers of the blood and the best promoters of absorption and secretion, which remove all poisonous and obnoxious particles from both solids and fluids.

## Literature.

## THE WORKS OF EDWARD IRVING.\*

Until within a few years the name of Edward Irving was to this generation but the name of a shadow. A brilliant pulpit-meteor, at which nobles, statesmen, literary men, and fashionable ladies gazed for awhile with wonder,—a man in whom were combined strangely contrasting qualities, such as high intellect with great affection, humble religiousness with intense self-assertion, and so on,—corrupted by popularity and applause, so that he became heretical for wilfulness' or distinction's sake, and was justly condemned by his church,—eventually the founder of a sect, in the peculiarities of which all that is not fanaticism is something like imposture,—these were the general hues of the statements respecting Irving which one heard in "religious circles" some twenty years ago: and behind these representations no distinct human figure, no personal character, no true life detectable. But few, comparatively, knew and pondered the words of Thomas Carlyle concerning this man; and many who knew them felt Irving to be the more susceptible from such a testimony having been borne. Then, again, the philosopher of Highgate had too broadly declared of his "valued and affectionately respected" "friend," that he had "no faith in his prophecy-ings, small sympathy with his fulminations, and was unable to see the way through the peculiarities of his theological system," for it to be also remembered that the same authority had said of him that he had "more of the head and heart, the life, the unction, and the power of Martin Luther, than any man of this or last century." The attitude towards the churches of that body of religionists which might be expected to cherish Irving's memory tended to dishonour it and to obscure it. And so it came to pass that only in the society of those who had personally known him, or had been more than hearers once and away of the exciting preacher, could one learn anything that made Irving intelligible or reverencable, or that accounted for his remarkable influence on his contemporaries. All this is at an end. Dr. Hanua's "Life of Chalmers," and the late Mr. Washington Wilks's honestly-purposed and warm-hearted little biography, did much to give back Irving as a man to the knowledge and sympathy of all who have genuine feelings and Catholic admirations. But it is to Mrs. Oliphant's now well-known volume that it is owing that Irving's name is more clearly and brightly written on the great record of good and true men, and that his errors, however serious and grievous, no longer hide the form of one in whom rare holiness, devotion to truth, and truest bravery are more characteristic than any peculiarities of opinion or erratic courses of action.

Mrs. Oliphant having told this generation what he was as a man, the nephew of Irving has undertaken to let it be known what he was as a preacher and an author; and has commenced, and already completed the larger part of, "such a collection of his writings as will fairly exhibit his great powers of oratory and thought." "It is his hope that a clear estimate will thus be formed of a man remarkable in the history of religious opinion, but more remarkable for the singular originality and eloquence, the wide range, and often prophetic sublimity, of his Christian teaching."

It has happened to us several times to learn from men distinguished as ministers of religion, and more than one as an orator, how profound an impression was made on their minds by a first perusal of Irving's "Orations on Judgment." It might well be memorable in the life of any man conscious of the reality of his own calling to the ministry of God's word, when his soul suddenly was caught up in that stream of words, so mighty, so gentle, so fire-like, so full of breathing life. A thoughtful reader, with pure taste and healthy feeling, could not fail to observe great and sometimes painfully disturbing faults—frequent strained and stilted passages, false colouring, monotonous and morbid sentiment; but these could not destroy the fascination of that strange, solemn eloquence, or the power of that prophet-like earnestness and fearlessness which marked the treatment of a theme surpassing even the highest genius and the intensest religious feeling. If acquaintance with Irving's writings extended beyond these orations to his occasional sermons, and to his introduction to Horne on the Psalms, it would undoubtedly be felt that this great preacher and godly man, had more than most of

the noblest of his time, the truly prophetic and apostolic spirit, and that a genuine sympathy and grave thoughtfulness might learn more from him than could possibly be gained by those whom he merely excited to an unbounded admiration, or to a heated religious passion. Often, we think, it must have seemed to the most spiritual and devout minds in the many paths of religious thought and activity, that this strong man, intellectual, impassioned, and overflowing with life and force, belonged much more to the whole Christian church than to any section by which the peculiarities of theology and of ecclesiastical development that he encouraged were accounted their own particular possession. And so it is unquestionable that a collection of Irving's works will be much more precious to cultivated and earnest Christians generally—as highest pulpit oratory, as mightiest spiritual impulse, rather than as definite and true religious thought—than to any pretentious sect with which his name may for the moment have been identified. Mr. Carlyle's publication of his writings in a complete form will be received with sympathy and gratitude by all who have catholic feeling, and are susceptible of impression by noblest moral and intellectual energy.

Five volumes will contain these works; of which three goodly octavos are before us. About half of this collection, as a whole, will consist, we are told, of Discourses and Essays now printed for the first time. As we ourselves have no complete set of the works published in Irving's lifetime, and as the editor has not in every case prefixed notes as to the date, or as to the publication or otherwise, of the several productions he brings together, we will not attempt to discriminate at large between what is new and what has been previously printed; but, as all the works given to the world by the author have been long out of print, and a few only even occasionally to be met with, it is for the most part unimportant to distinguish between the published and the hitherto unpublished; for all but the Orations we have before referred to will be new to the greater part of our readers.

The contents of the first volume are as follows:—On the Word of God:—The Parable of the Sower:—The Book of Psalms (the introduction to Horne, before named):—Missionaries after the Apostolical School (the sermon for the London Missionary Society, which so much excited public religious feeling, was warmly discussed and largely condemned, was certainly not in all things justifiable, or according to truth, or free from assumed spiritual superiority, and the impression of which has been spoken of not altogether wisely or fairly by Mrs. Oliphant):—an Ordination Charge:—Historical View of the Church of Scotland before the Reformation:—and Notes on the Standards of the Church of Scotland (prefixed to an edition of these Standards, published relatively to the controversy resulting from the deposition of Mr. M'Leod Campbell, of Row). The strongly-marked individuality of Irving is observable in them all, and the elements of all that is characteristic of his most fully-developed thought as a theologian is in them all. But Irving was not a great thinker, but a great orator; not a great theologian, but a great apostle; not accurate, clear, and sound—not even various and free in quality of mind; but had a few fine powers that grew richly—some almost rankly,—and forceful moral impulses, and deep and inexhaustible feeling. These writings teach little,—do not suggest much: but they search and try, stimulate and powerfully arouse, if only they find the hearing ear and the susceptible heart. From the discourses on the Parable of the Sower, we extract a passage in the orator's calmest and most didactic manner.

"We have maintained from the whole parable, but especially from the last part of it, that there is in men, as they are found in all ages, and in all countries, some who are prepared, and some who are unprepared by the state of their hearts and minds, for receiving the seed of everlasting truth, which Christ, first by Himself, and now by His church, is sowing in the world, and which the Holy Spirit is continually watering; that this difference is due to their wise or unwise, their honest or dishonest, use of those principles of reason which God hath created in them, and of those opportunities of exercising them which He hath put within their power. But when our creation, gifts, or talents, and these occasions of Providence, have been improved to the utmost, they can go no further than to prepare a soil for bearing Divine fruit; but which in itself is utterly incapable of bringing forth anything pertaining to redemption; and whether God shall sow any Divine seed in it at all, is wholly according to the good pleasure of His own will. Such a soil I believe to exist, wherever man exists; and upon this faith I would go and preach the Gospel to every nation under heaven, and sow in hope: yet God in His providence hath not ordered it so that there should be preachers of the Gospel in every place. Because God will exercise His own sovereign pleasure in bestowing His gifts: and 'those not having the law are a law unto themselves, and will be judged without law.' Thus far the power of man can go, and no further: and here he must hope and expect. And even in Christian countries, which possess both the preached and the written word, with all the other ordinances of the Church, man can go no further by all his wisdom and power than

to prepare the soil. And thus we draw a broad impassable gulf around the realm and region of human power. In order to produce one act, which may be called good in the language of the Gospel, the power of God must be put forth; every good work is a fruit of redemption."

Of course there is much in Irving's exposition that may be challenged, and in his theology which can secure no general agreement; but scarcely more, we think, than in many another similar expansion and application of the parable. How characteristic are the following passages on "Seed in an Honest Heart" every one who knows Irving at all will feel:—

"Above all things, we should cultivate honesty and simplicity, truth and faithfulness, in ourselves, and all with whom we have to do. Falsehood, fraud, and subterfuge permit at no rate. Be jealous of wit and humour, and all equivocal forms of representing things. I have sometimes devoutly wished that I were so stupid as not to understand a joke, that I were honest enough to perceive nothing but the falsehood of what the French call a *jeu d'esprit*, or playfulness of mind. I tell you, brethren, be honest. . . . Seek not to be shrewd; be not ashamed to be called simple."

"But as to all manner of political and double-minded people, wise in their own conceit, and prudent for this world, clever, intellectual, and active-minded though they be; have more hope of a fool than of such a one. They are too knowing to believe; they are too shrewd to be charitable; they are too prudent to hope against hope. You may as soon expect corn to grow upon the sea-beach as the seed of the Word to take root there. Be on your guard, then, and remember you have been warned against these forms of character to which this age is so very prone. You cannot be of this character, and be after God's image: the thing is utterly impossible."

The second volume contains "Lectures on John the Baptist," fifteen in number, delivered soon after Mr. Irving's settlement in London, and now printed from his MSS. for the first time. The subject was one well suited to his genius and his cast of piety. He himself was one who, in his measure, came "in the spirit and the power of Elias"; and it is not wholly inappropriate, though perhaps not tastefully or modestly, as some may think, that he says, "I do, in the Baptist's room, give exhortation," &c. and "It is my intention to dilate on God's judgments in the hearing of this city, after the manner of an ancient prophet, and with none of the soft lullabies of modern speculation." But can we quite relish from the MS. such an arranged burst of feeling, with somewhat affected expression, as this?—"Ohon! ohon! [och-hone, we suppose] a fancy cometh upon my brain which I dare hardly utter, lest it overwhelm the feeling of this assembly, and unman myself into unbending weeping." It is occasionally in sayings like this that we see that the great, eloquent, God-fearing speaker had his weaknesses, and was something less than a "voice crying in the wilderness." We see, too, that he was not the perfect orator; when, instead of being himself simply and naturally affected, and trusting thereby to affect others, he protests concerning his own thought or image how it is fitted to affect him, and directs his audience how themselves to be affected. And the worst of it is—at least in our judgment—that the "fancy" is, after all, when most carefully uttered, in spite of professed reluctance, not at all an overwhelming one, unless great power of tone and manner give it a force to the imagination and feeling of sensuous minds which would be painful and shocking to genuine spirituality and reverentness. Our admiration for Irving's gifts, and our faith in him as Christ's servant, notwithstanding the clouded vision and anguished movement of the last troubled years, should not blind us to the great fault of his living address—the artifice of the rhetorician showing itself through the communicated thought and moral intention of the speaker.

Five lectures on the "Temptation of our Lord," follow those on the Baptist; but we do not pause upon their peculiarities of interpretation—not so great as might have been expected, though in things very significant not to be approved—not do we dwell upon their solemnly impressive speech. They are incomplete, the MS. terminating abruptly. The "Homilies on Baptism" were published in 1828, with a beautiful dedication to Mrs. Irving. "Homilies on the Lord's Supper," which formed part of the author's original plan of a discussion of the doctrine of the Sacraments, are now printed for the first time from his MSS. Both series contain passages of singularly impressive eloquence; and not a little that is precious as spiritual interpretation of the Scriptures. But both also contain what we think very objectionable and unscripural views of the nature of sacramental efficacy, and of the spiritual position which those receiving the Sacraments may account themselves to hold on "the Church's responsibility." At the same time, while marking as very dangerous Irving's baptismal theory, and doctrine of Christ's presence to faith in the Supper, we are persuaded that he has presented practical aspects of these ordinances which are greatly neglected, and that his homilies may help the thoughtful and judicious to give greater prominence to Christ's

\* The Collected Writings of Edward Irving. Edited by his Nephew, the Rev. G. CARLYLE. Vols. 1, 2, and 3. London: A. Strahan and Co.

positive institutions in the development of spiritual life and in the testimony of the Church to the world.

The third volume is exceedingly valuable, containing three series of practical discourses, on "Prayer," "Praise," and "Family and Social Religion." The last is rich, wise, solemn, strengthening, and sometimes overpowering. It is fitted to exert an influence that shall penetrate every power and passion of a Christian soul devoutly seeking to discharge the duties arising out of domestic and social relationships. The remainder of the volume consists of "Discourses Delivered on Public Occasions," the dates of which are appended. One on "The Cause and Remedy of Ireland's Evil Condition," besides declaring true and weighty things with some debateable things, makes known Irving's view of the religious parties of his time. Whether we ourselves derive the benefit we ought from the words spoken about Dissenters, or not, we do not feel that we are indulging any unworthy feeling in calling attention to what we think the truthful description of the Evangelical party in the Established Church, in the following extract:—

"And I believe, moreover, that in the ruling party of the Church of England, there is as much of formality and Pharisaism, and as much if not more hatred of spiritual truth than in the Papacy, which hath retreats where piety pours itself out unseen. And that, take it for all in all, the Church of England, though pure in doctrine, and devout in prayer, hath from total want of discipline, no right to be considered a church, but as a mere national institution, where Christian doctrine is preached. And I believe, moreover, that the Dissenting bodies are becoming generally so political and sectarian, not to say radical in their spirit, and so invaded with popular feeling, so commanded and overawed by it, that the Spirit of God is very closely confined and sorely grieved and much quenched amongst them. And to the Evangelical body of the Church of England, which I did once look upon as a star in the gloom, and to the spiritual of all churches and sects (for it is the work of the Spirit blowing where He listeth), I have this to say, that if they will preach less dogmatical, and more a personal Gospel; that is, present the persons of the Godhead, thus purposing, thus speaking, and thus acting, for men, rather than the abstract purpose, word, and action, if they will go about to separate a Church from the worldly mass by preserving the Sacraments, those bulwarks of the visible church, full of meaning, and pure in application as far as man can preserve them, the Lord may be pleased to make them the bearers of His standard; but if not (and faint, faint are my hopes), if they go about to court the favour of princes and prelates, and put their trust in their growing numbers, or in their shibboleths of shallowest doctrine, or in their favourite preachers and approved books, then let them mark that it was spoken and said unto them by One that loves them much, though Him they have little loved, that they also shall die away like an untimely birth, and bring forth no fruit of reformation to the land."

A sermon on "The Spiritual Economy of Scotland," puts Irving before us, not unpleasantly, as intensely Scottish; and, were it not that one knows something of the inner nature of the man, one might suppose that, in the following passage, he was borne away by his national partialities into a warmly-coloured flattery of his countrymen. Were it not that the nationality of the speaker is known, and that the Scottish peasantry are named in contrast to the English and Irish, one would not guess where to look for the realities supposed to be here described; but could only enviously sigh, "Happy country! happy people!"

"Who knows not the copious discourse, the well-sustained argument, the sharp wit, and caustic humour which circulates around the firesides of the Scottish peasantry. It is as much a characteristic of the people of Scotland to go through the burn or down the glen to their neighbour's house, in order to enjoy the 'crack' by the fireside, as for the English peasantry to adjourn to the alehouse, or the Irish peasantry to their sparring or quilting camps. And if you would wish to know what a state of innocent intercourse there is between the sexes, read our songs; and if you would wish to know what sharp intellect there is amongst our men, read our dialogues; and if you would wish to know what a body of tradition there is in every family, read our tales, which are but a gleaming of the fields; so that, out of my own recollection, I shall engage to supply many volumes to anyone who will be at the pains to take them down; and I have been no collector, and a poor retainer of what I have heard. But wait; why wander I from my spiritual text? If you would know the moral atmosphere under which our children grow, go and witness their silence, their thirsty ears and mute tongues, in the presence of their elders, and their reverent carriage in the presence of their superiors; their fine feelings towards their parents; their deathless affection for one another; their fond esteem of their kindred to the remotest degree; their worship of God by night and morning; their regularity at school; their reading of all manner of books, and repeating of all manner of traditions; their visits to ruined towers and ivy-mantled castles of the days of yore; their help reached forth, the while, to their father and their mother, in their morning and evening labours; their ramblings up and down amongst the mountains and by the streams; their superstitious dread of haunted places, and sense for ever of spiritual presences; the number of adventurers returned home, everyone able and willing to recount his toils by flood and field; the number of kinsmen in foreign parts who are ever wishing tidings and sending help to their friends, and keeping awake the curiosity and knowledge and adventure of the youth; the multitude who have risen to eminence and wealth and renown, whose names are not suffered to slumber on the shelf; the great number of ingenious and inventive men spread

around; the songs of love and satire which every village will furnish you, when occasion offereth."

"It really is of almost no importance in respect to intelligence, in what class of the people a man be born, so that you do not rise above the rank of a farmer; for beyond that I say not, but with that, whether you be of the tradesman, or the mechanic, or the farmer, or the cottier, or the pauper, who are hardly to be classed, it maketh no difference. They are all intelligent, not to say intellectual men, cultivated according to the talents which God hath given them, and using their talents well, according to the occasions furnished them, not in actual life, but in the subjects that come under the consideration of their minds,—capable of accommodating themselves to new manners and new places and new occupations, and to discharge any office of trust or superintendence."

Very good;—we are glad of it; but hearing it from even earnest truthful Irving, it provokes a smile, and his earnest truthful countrymen smile sadly with us.

We are greatly contented with these volumes; and commend them emphatically to those who have to present religious truth to popular assemblies. Irving belongs to the rank of church orators which Chrysostom leads; and has few peers even there. Should the remaining volumes reach our hands, we shall perhaps say something of his characteristics as a thinker, of his style, and of his use of the form of the ancient oration.

#### "CHRISTIAN'S MISTAKE."\*

If we are to accept those verdicts of reviewers which enterprising publishers are so careful to keep before the eyes of the public, the fiction of our day is as remarkable for its quality as its quantity. We have sometimes been not a little amused as we have run our eyes down the advertising columns, to note the number of novels which are pronounced by different writers to be the "best books of the season," how many are said to be a "decided success," and how skillfully the changes are rung on such epithets as "brilliant and fascinating," "remarkable, original, and interesting," "the best work of its talented author," "secures very high praise." We greatly doubt whether this style of praise does any real service to the works so overlauded. We can only say for ourselves that we have been so often disappointed in tales which we have read on the faith of these commendations that we have acquired a strong distrust of books that come to us heralded by such a flourish of trumpets. When, therefore, we took up "Christian's Mistake," we were quite prepared to find that partial critics had assigned a position far beyond that to which it was fairly entitled. We are glad to confess ourselves mistaken. It is certainly one of the best stories we have read for some time—charming from its very simplicity—without a sensational element or an overdrawn character. It is a sweet and touching picture of common life, drawn with an exquisite skill, which puts the finishing stroke to the artist's triumph by concealing the art by which such results have been produced—altogether a very truthful and natural tale—and withal apparently so slight in its construction, that we can quite understand how readers accustomed to the melodramatic situations, harrowing incidents, and exciting mysteries in which so many of our modern novelties delight, may pronounce it tame and commonplace. But it is just such tales which call forth the highest qualities of genius. It is easy to let the imagination run riot, to create characters endowed with more than angelic excellence or abandoned to worse than diabolic passion, to string together a multitude of incidents utterly regardless of their coherence or probability, and so to produce a tale whose one object is to excite. A far more difficult thing is to paint from nature, to bring out those minute points of character which go far to determine its real influence, to clothe ordinary men and things with a freshness that shall awaken for them an interest never suspected before, to show how pregnant with instruction are human lives, even though, looked at from the outside, they may seem to be of the most humdrum order, and to gather from all the scenes that are described lessons that may enlarge, purify, and ennoble the whole nature. This is what Miss Mulock has aimed to do, and she has succeeded. "Christian's Mistake" deserves to stand by the side of "John Halifax," as pure in its tone, as generous in its spirit, as clever in its portraiture of character, as free from all unwholesome excitement, as healthful in its effects upon the mind and heart.

The scene is laid in one of our Universities, and the hero, if, indeed, it is not a misnomer to talk of hero or heroine in connection with a story which so resolutely abjures everything of a romantic character, is one of the College dons. We have not, however, as might have been expected, any scenes of College life. Our authoress has the sense to know her powers, and

has very wisely abstained from attempting to depict what could never be truly described except by one who had been a part of the life he sought to represent. Distant and occasional glimpses we have here and there, but they are very brief, and only serve to remind us that there is another sort of life going on in close proximity to the quaint old house in which the action of the story is principally laid. Dr. Grey, the Master of St. Bede's College, Avonbridge, has astonished the world, and horrified two old maids, a sister and a sister-in-law, who reside with him, by choosing for his second wife the young and fair but portionless daughter of the former organist of the College, who had been not only a poor, but a worthless, dissipated man. The troubles which grew out of this match are the subject of this short but very beautiful tale. Christian, the worthy doctor's wife, has unhappily married him after a hurried courtship, without feeling for him that devoted affection which a wife should feel for the man whom she has sworn to *love* as well as honour and obey. The latter two Christian was quite prepared to do, and the former she trusted would come with time. Unfortunately, the surroundings were very unfavourable to the growth of the feeling. The young girl found in her new home not only two spoiled children, abandoned almost entirely to the care of a nurse who had neither the ability nor the desire to train them aright, but, what was infinitely worse, the two maiden aunts who looked down on her and her humble connections with contempt, who resented her marriage as a personal offence and a family disgrace, who had poisoned the minds of the children against her, and who, in short, were determined that she should find her position in her own house as uneasy as little tricks of petty feminine spite could make it. The one improbability of the story, as it appears to us, is the presence of Miss Gascoigne, the sister-in-law of Dr. Grey, and the source of all the trouble that arose, as a constant inmate in his house; although certainly without her the tale would lose most of its piquancy and force. Gentle, kind, and considerate, as Dr. Grey was, constitutionally timid and averse to all strong measures, there was yet in him sufficient decision to resist the intolerable tyranny of this granitelike woman. We can hardly think it probable, therefore, that he would have submitted to the annoyance for so many years himself, and still less that, with his keen insight into character, he would have exposed his gentle young wife to such an infliction. We can hardly urge such an objection, however, when we see the admirable use which Miss Mulock has made of her materials. The troubles that grew out of the ill-judged arrangement, the petty indignities to which Christian was subject, and the miserable quarrels springing from them, are described with extraordinary skill. Still the difficulties that were thus created for our heroine might have been more easily got over, but for an unhappy escapade during her married life. Prior to her acquaintance with Dr. Grey, she had been fascinated for a time by the attentions of a very brilliant and attractive but dangerous young man, then an undergraduate of St. Bede's. An offence, marked by singular baseness, had led to his rustication and had opened her eyes to his true character. She had therefore utterly renounced him, and there was not a lingering sentiment of love for him in her heart when she married her present husband. So far she was perfectly innocent, but she had shrunk from mentioning the circumstances to Dr. Grey; and when her former lover, now become a baronet, appears on the stage and seeks to compromise her by his attentions, complications arise through his malignity, the common gossiping propensities of the town, and the bitter jealousy of Miss Gascoigne, which involve her in serious anxiety and threaten even worse results. We do not care to spoil the pleasure of our readers by going further into the details of the plot, which is ingeniously constructed, and cleverly developed. Perhaps a hyper-critic might object that too much importance is attached to "Christian's mistake"; that after all, it is not to be expected that a young girl should reveal to her husband the secrets of every passing flirtation of former years; and that the sorrow endured by Christian as the penalty of her error is, to say the least, excessive. We agree, however, with Miss Mulock that perfect confidence is essential to the happiness of married life, and that when it is not given trouble is sure, sooner or later, to arise. Probably some of the feeling expressed by Christian may appear morbid and overstrained, but it was the natural, almost necessary result, of the circumstances that they should be so, and the whole appear to us singularly true to nature.

Of the characters in the volume, the most striking, though the most repulsive, is Miss Gascoigne, and the portrait is rendered all the more effective by the contrast with her com-

\* *Christian's Mistake.* By the Author of "John Halifax." One Vol. London: Hurst and Blackett.

panion, Miss Grey, with her gushing sentiment, her implicit faith and reverential devotion to her brother, her feebleness of purpose, and her human sympathies. To all such weaknesses Miss Gascoigne was superior. A strong-minded and strong-willed woman, she brooked no opposition, and trampled remorselessly upon any one who dared to cross her path. Some of our novelists would have made such a woman hatch some terrible conspiracy, weave a web of intrigue leading to a tragic result, and possibly commit some capital crime. Miss Mulock does far better, when she shows the mischief and unhappiness which such a spirit may produce, even while restraining its action within the bounds of conventional propriety, and while employing no weapon more deadly than a bitter and biting tongue. Dr. Grey is a capital specimen of a College don, so sensible, so self-contained, so disdainful of the common domestic occurrences, so absorbed in his learned researches, yet with a nature so genuine, a heart so tender, and when put to the test, so resolute a will. Another College picture, that of Barker, though little more than an outline, is exceedingly well done. Christian is an innocent, pure-minded, affectionate young girl, suddenly elevated to a position whose difficulties and responsibilities she was unable to estimate before she was in them. Her gradual awakening to a consciousness of her perils and trials, her deportment under the constant irritation of the jealous woman whose authority she had superseded, the spirit with which she met the unworthy man whom once she had been so foolish as to love, and the gradual change by which her whole heart was won for her noble husband, are brought out with great art. Miss Mulock has fallen into an amiable error common to those of her temper and views, in ascribing to circumstances too great a power in correcting the evil tendencies of individual character. Unhappily such transformations as those we find in Miss Gascoigne and Sir Edward Uniacke are very uncommon in real life; however beautiful as pictures, they convey a false impression of human nature. We take our leave of this book with the feeling that it is one of the few novels of the season that will live beyond the hour, that can be wisely introduced into families, or to which we would care to give a place in our libraries.

#### "THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND COMMON SENSE."\*

As Dissenters, we have such a rooted persuasion that the Church of England will not bear the inspection of common sense, that on taking up a book written by a clergyman, professing to vindicate the Church of England precisely on this ground, we were prepared to find plenty of special pleading, a careful suppression of inconvenient facts, exaggerated laudation of real and fancied excellencies, and all the usual logical *tours de force* by which clergymen gloss over the anomalies and inconsistencies of their position, and hide from their own consciences the rottenness or disease which looks so ghastly and conspicuous to outsiders. However, on reading the book we found none of these deformities: we were most agreeably surprised at finding in every page evidences of strong and genuine good sense, genial and healthy human feeling, perfect freedom from clerical slang, an utter absence of theological cant, bold, original, and striking illustrations of familiar truths, earnest and manly views of Christian living and behaviour, broad and liberal ideas of human life and human destiny,—all the qualities which we should desire in a Christian teacher who is charged with the work of bringing Christian truths and motives and influences home to the hearts and consciences of busy, shrewd, thoughtful men in this theologically and ecclesiastically contumacious nineteenth century. This is what we found; and yet we cannot assent to the latent inference of the title-page, and give to the Church of England the credit for common sense which we are quite willing to give to Mr. Jones. If we could only bring ourselves to put a good broad pair of blinkers over our eyes—to look at the theology of the Church of England solely in one direction, ignoring all other points of view—we might perhaps surrender ourselves to the guidance of such teachers as Mr. Jones, and discern in the Church of England the peaceful resting-place and spiritual home which he would fain persuade us it is.

It is a most alluring trap which Mr. Jones very skilfully sets for us. He extracts from the Prayer-book those parts to which a lay member is called upon to pledge himself,—he has not then much difficulty in showing that these isolated expressions of faith and duty are able to commend themselves

on the whole to the understanding of thoughtful people,—and then, hey presto! he hoists his flag, "The Church of England and Common Sense." Having, like a very lively and good-humoured recruiting officer, put a shilling into our hands, he pins the colours of his regiment to our caps, and marches us off to head-quarters. It is a very nimble movement, an excellent piece of strategy, but our common sense will not consent to be "sold" at so low a price. It is not needful that we dissent from the Church, or theology, or even the ecclesiastical polity of the Church of England—and our common sense refuses to look at the Church of England exclusively in these aspects—but when we dissent from the Church of England, we dissent from a body which uses the vulgarest physical force, the meanest forms of pecuniary persuasion, the most sordid appeals to selfishness, to promote moral and spiritual ends:—we dissent from a Church that places itself in haughty isolation from all other organised bodies of Christian men, and then reproaches them as sectarian, separatists and schismatics:—we dissent from a Church which is blind to all religious action and life except its own, and while clinging to a delusive and demoralising outward uniformity destroys real unity, and has no eye for healthy variety. We feel that, even by becoming lay members of the Church of England, we should be lending our sanction to innumerable details which are not only repugnant to the spirit of Christianity, but are intolerably nauseous and offensive to simple good taste and honesty and fairness and generosity;—we should give a passive, if not an active consent, to impositions such as Church-rates, to the hungry greed of rectors after fees and Easter-dues, to cruel and inhuman graveyard outrages, to supercilious airs of exclusive priestly authority, to revolting deeds of simony, to mental reservation and non-natural subscription, to unjust distribution of social and political honours, and to all the direct and indirect forms of persecution which necessarily follow when one class is elevated above another, for no reason of special merit, but for the mere accident of belonging to a certain ecclesiastical sect. If the Church of England necessarily presents itself before us in this light, obviously our common sense cannot be reconciled to it because its Liturgy contains impressive exhortations, beautiful prayers, and lofty teachings concerning God and man, faith and duty.

Perhaps Mr. Jones, if he happens to read this notice, will think we are indulging in a very ill-natured and irrelevant Dissenting growl. Our excuse must be that it is all forced upon us by the huge *petitio principii* of his title-page. It is too much the fashion—though it is perhaps inevitable under the circumstances—for Churchmen, especially of the "Broad" school, to set up a charming ideal picture of a beautiful theological and ecclesiastical structure, the home of theological freedom, graceful culture, elegant scholarship, gentle manners, and religious enthusiasm, a spacious, many-storeyed edifice where all varieties of mind and temperament can find appropriate apartments for thought and worship,—and having expatiated with glowing fervour and eloquent adulation on the glory and amplitude of this imaginary structure, they straightway label it "Church of England," and charge upon Dissent a want of sympathy and appreciation of all the ideal truth and beauty which they thus pourtray. Nothing can be more illogical or unfair, and—to spring back at once to the more congenial matters that meet us in Mr. Jones's book, when we have left the title-page behind,—we could give the fullest and heartiest sympathy to all Mr. Jones says concerning the teaching of the Church of England about repentance, faith, and obedience, and yet feel that our understanding is insulted by the smuggled inference, that therefore the Church of England has a right to the allegiance of our common sense.

With this reservation, we have great pleasure in expressing our high admiration of Mr. Jones's volume. On one or two points—which we do not care to specify—we may differ from him, chiefly where the formulas of his Church commit him to faulty or ambiguous theological statements. But we believe he has a rare gift of presenting Christian truth in a manner that is eminently adapted to win the assent of inquiring and practical men. Mr. Jones wishes to show that the faith taught and the practice enjoined by the Church of England to the laity is reasonable in itself, and is a compendious summary of the requirements, internal and external, of holy Christian character. By baptism her members are pledged to renounce the world, the flesh, and the devil, to a belief of the Apostles' creed, and to obedience to the Divine commandments—repentance, faith, obedience. The bulk of the volume is occupied with these three topics, and the import of the words in which they are expressed in the Services. These being set forth as the conditions of salvation, a few brief chapters are devoted to the means by

which the Christian is to be helped in meeting these conditions—prayer, public worship, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. These are very old and familiar matters, and yet about them all Mr. Jones discourses with a freshness that gives unexpected interest to all he says. In one instance we think his boldness and freedom of utterance degenerates into indiscretion. He laments the circumstance that "many thoughtful laymen, especially in large towns, where their absence from church is not likely to be productive of any troublesome comment, are deterred from public worship by the questionable sense 'which some of us persons talk in the pulpit.'" He advises such to go to church only to worship, and to be as uncritical as possible in listening to the sermons which are forced upon them. "But," he adds, "if the preacher were hopelessly irritating and heartless, why then I would advise the thoughtful layman to pick up his hat and walk out of the church as soon as, or rather before, the sermon began." Surely this is very rash and unseemly advice. The abuses that would result from any attempt to follow it are too many and obvious to be enumerated. Probably, although Mr. Jones would feel himself pretty secure from any such treatment by the attendants at his own church, he would be the last to perpetrate such an outrage on his less deserving brethren of the cloth. We think this passage a grave blemish in an otherwise most excellent and impressive book. We observe that Mr. Jones announces a volume of "Berwick-street Sermons" as preparing for publication. We anticipate much pleasure in making acquaintance with them.

#### MR. SMEDLEY'S LIFE AND POEMS.\*

Those of our readers who have passed half-way through their third decade, will probably remember a periodical—a very charming one it was, too, in its way—called *Sharpe's London Magazine*. Its life was short; but its contents were not all destined to be forgotten. A series of papers called "Scenes from the Life of a Private Pupil" excited so much attention that they were continued and republished as a serial. "Frank Fairleigh" is now a part of almost every schoolboy's library, and among his most cherished possessions. It was followed by "Lewis Arundel" and "Harry Coverdale's Courtship," which were not quite so successful. All of these novels are of the same type as well as authorship. They abound in scenes of wild and boisterous fun, in talk about horses, descriptions of races, incidents of foreign travel, hair's-breadth escapes from danger—duels, drownings, and assassination; all written about in the highest possible spirits, and with the most enviable sense of enjoyment. Those who are not already acquainted with the fact, will now learn with the deepest astonishment, that he who could thus write was, from the nature of his hard lot, cut off from all practical knowledge of such matters. He was a helpless cripple, who could sit and write, and little more. The completer his seclusion, the keener seems to have been his sympathy with the pleasures and excitements of the outer world; and, as a matter of course, too, the fresher was the tone in which he could write of them. In literary pursuits he passed his days, enjoying all the solace which easy circumstances and the ardent friendship of all who knew him could administer to an existence doomed in the nature of things to be both dreary and brief. Recently he died, and his intimate and most affectionate friend, Mr. Edmund Yates, now reverently lays a garland of *immortelles* upon his tomb.

It would be wrong to suppose that Frank Smedley was a mere literary trifler, who could cut buffoonery into lengths and rhymes, and write inaccurately of scenes and places, where perhaps the footsteps of the wise are not. To be always amusing is a talent given to few, as we all know; and amusing he always was. Furthermore, there was about him a backbone of definite opinion about religion and politics; we long ago noticed that his mild Toryism, his Churchmanship, and the sometimes awkwardly and too pressingly urged morality of his writings, sprang from real convictions. Besides which he had a certain quantity of real creative talent, in the funny line. Lawless is a character; so are Freddy Coleman and Charley Leicester; so are Bracy and De Grand. But when he attempts the grand manner he fails completely. Frank Fairleigh and Lewis Arundel are the most uninteresting of moral clothes-horses; of Harry Coverdale we have not sufficient recollection to speak.

Of these "Gathered Leaves" we should like to speak as tenderly as possible, were it only for the reason that every harsh word spoken of them

\* *The Church of England and Common Sense; or, a Working Faith for Thoughtful Men.* By HARRY JONES, M.A., Incumbent of St. Luke's, Berwick-street, Boho. Macmillan: London and Cambridge. 1864.

\* *Gathered Leaves.* By FRANK E. SMEDLEY. With an Introductory Memoir by EDMUND YATES. London: Virtue.

will wound the feelings of the author of this manly and touching preface—in its way quite a little gem of biography. But it remains only to confess that "Frank Fairleigh," as Mr. Smedley will long be called, was no poet. The longer poems are imitations of the "Ingoldsby Legends," and though some of them are amusing, come far, very far behind their rollicking gallop of rhyme and music, wit and fun, and only remind one disadvantageously of the original. The shorter poems are some of them tender and sweet, but do not rise above the level of those "exercises in 'verse" which are now so frequently given to the world. All, however, who wish to know anything of the life of a good man who bore uncomplainingly, indeed with a rare courage and heroism, one of the hardest destinies that can be allotted to man, and by sheer force of effort and endurance turned it into a field of labour and enjoyment, may turn with advantage to Mr. Yates's feeling and graceful memoir.

## LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

It is reported that the long-talked-of work on the South's War of Independence from the pen of that famous lady, "Belle Boyd," now the wife of Mr. Hardinge, living in London, may be shortly expected. Mr. Hardinge has found his way back to London, having been released from confinement by the Federals. It is understood, however, that this release was conditional.

It is said that the correspondence of the late Baron Humboldt will shortly be published in Paris. In addition to letters to and from distinguished men of science, it will give original biographies of the more celebrated, with notices of their inventions or contributions to the great stock of human learning.

The King of Saxony's edition of Dante's "Divine Comedy" is about to be issued in a popular form for the Dante Jubilee, which falls this year.

The first edition of the Emperor's "Vie de Jules César" only enables the publisher to supply one-fourth of the copies subscribed for. The work is reprinting.

In memory of the late Sir William Hamilton, it is proposed to found a fellowship in the University of Edinburgh bearing his name.

It is stated that Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle are about to publish an account of their late adventurous journey across the Rocky Mountains, and that this work will appear very shortly, beautifully illustrated by a great number of wood engravings.

Another translation of Homer's Iliad is announced to be published by Messrs. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder. The same firm will shortly publish a reply to Renan by M. de Pressensé, and a new work by the Rev. Charles Stanford.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

Consols have been low throughout the week, showing yesterday, however, a fractional recovery. The closing prices were 88½ for money, and 88½ for the 6th April.

The account of the disastrous failure of Messrs. Attwood, Spooner, and Co., the Birmingham bankers, is given in another column. The assets of the Bank are thought to be sufficient to pay 10s. in the £.

The tendency of all such stoppages of private banks is to give increased confidence to the joint-stock banks, the reports of which are published periodically. During the past week, the accounts of the Agra and Masterman's Bank, the Bank of Australasia, and the Merchant Banking Company have been presented to the public, showing respectively dividends of 20, 14, and 12 per cent. The immediate result of the announcement of Messrs. Attwood's stoppage, however, was the depression of all Bank shares.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, March 8.

## ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£28,560,590	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,634,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion 13,910,590

## £28,560,590

£28,560,590

## BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,555,000	Government Securities .. £11,023,211
Bank .. 3,843,818	Other Securities .. 19,828,885
Public Deposits .. 7,677,728	Notes .. 8,729,660
Other Deposits .. 13,904,702	Bills .. 845,017
Seven Day and other Bills .. 2,450,525	

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rantes shall not be later than July the 31st. The Work is already being printed by Messrs. Clowes and Sons.

Subscribers should send in their names as early as possible, as the Copies will be delivered in the order in which the names are received.

The Subscription List of this Unabridged Edition will only remain open until October 31.

After that date no Copies can be supplied excepting at the advanced price.

N.B.—For Specimen of Paper, Type, and Illustrations, see Prospectus, which is printed on the same paper as that used for the Commentary, and delivered gratis on application.

MATTHEW HENRY'S COMMENTARY recommends itself to all classes of the community. While it presents no paradoxes to baffle the unlettered, the learned cannot afford to slight its deep wisdom. It is a work which must be an acquisition alike to Clergymen and Ministers of every Protestant Denomination—to Heads of Families—to the Readers in Mechanics' Institutes and Artisans' Libraries—to Principals of Schools—and to all Bible Students of every Rank and Grade.

The following very important Editions of the Bible will shortly be ready:

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It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE IT  
consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential  
properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

*Horniman & Co.*

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**PATENT CORN FLOUR**  
is much recommended  
FOR CHILDREN'S DIET.

RECIPE FOR SPONGE CAKE.—Half-pound of Corn Flour, quarter or half-pound of butter, and two tea-spoonsful of Baking Powder, to be very well mixed together. Take three eggs, and beat the yolks and whites separately for fifteen minutes; then add to them quarter-pound bruised white sugar; mix all together, flavour to taste, and beat for fifteen minutes; put it into a well-buttered tin, papered all round two inches deeper than the tin; bake in a quick oven or one hour.

**TONIC BITTERS.—WATERS' QUININE**  
WINE, the most palatable and wholesome Bitter in existence; an efficient Tonic, an unequalled stomachic, and a gentle stimulant. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehouses, Wine Merchants, Confectioners, and others, at 3s. a dozen. Manufactured by WATERS and WILLIAMS, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London. Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

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GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

**HAIR DESTROYER** for removing superfluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This restorative, female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

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N.B.—If found to fail, the money will be returned for any unused portion.

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CAUTION.—See that "Dinneford and Co." is on each bottle and label over the cork.

### LONGEVITY IN THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

The Obituary of the "Ipswich Journal" gives the following results of cases of longevity in the Eastern Counties:

"In the first seven weeks of 1865, 97 persons died above the age of 70. Of these 53 were between 70 and 80, 30 between 80 and 90, and 14 between 90 and 100, making almost as many between 80 and 100 as between 70 and 80; and the average of these 97 persons is over 80 years. During the year 1864 we had three or four times to record the death of persons over 100 years of age."

It may not be generally known that the people of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex are the most constant and hearty patrons of that life-prolonging medicine, FARR'S LIFE PILLS.

**A SAFE and CERTAIN CURE** for that disfiguring, distressing, and ultimately dangerous disease, Thick Neck; and all Glandular Swellings. Send a stamped directed envelope to Mr. S. Drakeford, Desborough, Market-Harborough, and receive testimonials from ministers and others.

**COALS.**—Best Sunderland, 2s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 2s.; best Silkstone, 2s.; Clay Cross, 2s. and 2s.; Coke, per chaldron, 1s.  
S. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's park; Chief Offices: 169 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

**COALS.**—Best Coals only.—GEO. J. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 2s. per ton cash for the **BEST SCREENED COALS**, as supplied by them to her Majesty and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Grosvenor-canal, Pimlico, S.W.; Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.; and Durham-wharf, Wandsworth, S.W.; and at Brighton.

**COALS.**—By SCREW STEAMERS and RAILWAY.—LEA and CO.'S price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, or the Great Northern Railway, is 2s. per ton; Hartlepool, 2s.; Silkstone, first-class, 2s.; second-class, 2s.; Clay Cross, 2s. and 2s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 1s.; Barnsley, 2s.; Hartley, 1s.; best small, 1s. Coke, 1s. per chaldron, Net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and COMPY.'S Offices, Highbury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.

**SOUTH AMERICAN BEEF** and the SANITARY OFFICERS of the CITY.

The OPPOSITION of the SANITARY OFFICERS of the CITY to the introduction of SOUTH AMERICAN BEEF demands the fullest investigation. A bale of HARPER TWELVETREES' sun-dried

#### SOUTH AMERICAN BEEF

(possessing the character and appearance of Dried Reindeers' Tongues and Westphalia Hams), which was placed in his Export Sale-room, 81, Bishopsgate-street Within, City, for the inspection of his Wholesale Country Customers, when making their purchases in the Metropolis, was seized by Two Meat Inspectors on Saturday morning, March 4th, last, who stated

"THAT THEY EXERCISED NO DISCRETION AS TO THE CHARACTER OR CONDITION OF THE ARTICLE, BUT PROMINENTLY IT WAS JERKED BEEF."

No Scales, Weights, nor any appliances for selling the Meat were on the Premises,—the room being used exclusively for Samples, and for wholesale transactions.

No notice whatever was given by the said Inspectors of their intention to appear at the Police-court of the Mansion House, thus virtually excluding the attendance of the defendant.

Immediately after the above proceedings, Harper Twelvetrees requested the attendance of Dr. THOMAS ANSELL, the CHAIRMAN of the BOARD of EXAMINERS of APOTHECARIES' HALL, and the Medical Officer of the Board of Health for the Poplar District, to examine the whole of the Stock in the Stores at Bromley (from whence the above bale was removed to the City), that, if necessary, the stock might be destroyed. Dr. Ansell, however, after careful analysis and microscopical examination, has reported most favourably of the Meat, of which, with the Inspector of the said district, he has eaten (cooked), and drank the soup made therefrom.

As another instance of the precipitancy of all concerned in the above seizure, it may be stated that

#### SEVERAL TONS OF MEAT,

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